

ArcGIS

Name:	ArcMap- ArcGIS 9.3.1 (May 2009)
Produced:	ESRI, USA
Operating system:	Windows
Native filetype:	
Description:	GIS mapping and GIS data analysis software
Next version release:	
Homepage:	ESRI
See also:	GIS
Link:	LEARN, The Catalogue
	Official Support Post a question to Media Centre Download ArcGIS data
Introduction:	<p>ArcGIS is suite of programs which offer GIS (geographic information system) modelling and mapping and GIS data analysis functionality. The suite includes ArcMap, ArcViewer and ArcReader. ESRI is one of the largest GIS software providers on the market.</p> <p>Of this suite of programs, ArcMap is the main component and the most highly functional. The following information therefore pertains primarily to ArcMap</p>
Primary functions:	<p>Primary functions of ArcMap include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GIS mapping and map modification 2. GIS to CAD file exporting 3. GIS data analysis
Primary outputs:	<p>Main outputs from ArcMap are maps including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Digital 3D terrain maps can be imported as 3D meshes into 3DS Max and AutoCAD to simulate site topography allowing for later environmental analysis in the likes of Ecotect. Also, for rendering purposes it is often necessary to include terrain. 2. 2D site maps/plans are exportable directly from ArcMap as 2D drawing files, such as DWG, which are then imported to CAD software for site planning, documentation and modelling. 3. Printing of site maps and mapping images, data geographies and geographic information.
Usability:	<p>Though ArcMap is not particularly easy to pick up and has below average levels of interface usability it is very popular.</p> <p>It uses both command lines and graphic menus to input information into the program.</p> <p>The program has relatively high levels of interoperability being of course fully integrated with other ArcGIS programs and relatively well connected with programs such as those comprising the Autodesk suite (AutoCAD, 3DS Max etc).</p>
Strengths /weaknesses:	
Learning support:	<p>Due to ESRI's dominant industry position ArcMap is one of, if not the, primary GIS software, there is naturally extensive support available. Good software manuals issued by ESRI for ArcMap can be found here</p> <p>To get you started Media Centre suggest the following tutorials:</p> <p>Beginner A: Getting underway with Beginner B: Map layers Beginner C: Further tutorials Beginner D: PDF Tutorial</p> <p>Intermediate A: Animation in ArcMap Intermediate B: Creating maps Intermediate C: Making and printing maps</p> <p>Advanced A: Data analysis Advanced B: Adding VBA code Advanced C: Querying data</p>
Additional:	<p>You will also likely find interesting:</p> <p>Kardi Teknomo ESRI Library</p>
References:	
External links:	
Published:	<p>First published Mon. 1 Feb. 2010, substantive revision: Wed. 14 April. 2010</p>