

This Week's Wisdom:

The Coordinate Extractor Tool

The Coordinate Extractor Tool is another free tool available from the Tool Manager. It generates a set of coordinates for a table of points, lines or polygons. It even creates the new columns for you.

Output Columns

You can either create your own columns first and assign them in the Dialog Box or just click 'Create New Columns...' which will create two columns labelled Longitude and Latitude or X and Y. You can also choose whether to use the Native Projection or chose another.

NOTE: If you move any of your point objects in the map you will need to re-run the tool to update the values held in the table.

Working with objects other than points

The Coordinate Extractor will still work with polylines and polygons. In these cases, the x and y coordinates will be created for the centroid of the shape.

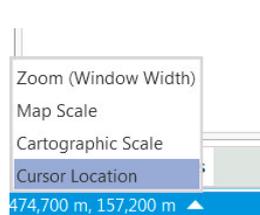
But I want to calculate coordinates for each node?

There's a handy third party mapbasic application called All2Pts.mbx which converts polygon/polyline nodes into points (which you can then use in the Coordinate Extractor Tool!). This is great for working with height and terrain data. You can download the mapbasic application here:

<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/mapinfo-l/RT04XCju1x8>

Cursor Location

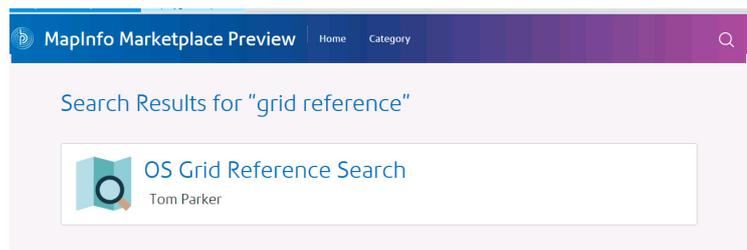
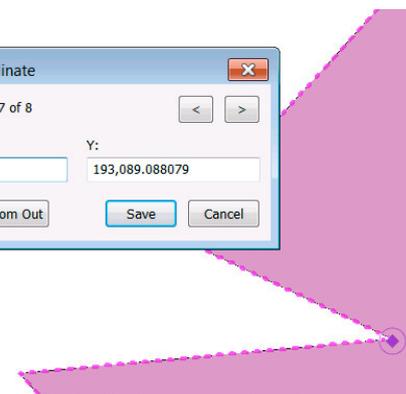
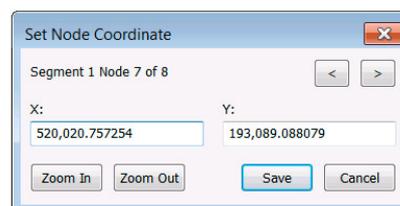
Alternatively, you can find a coordinate 'ad-hoc' by changing the status bar in the bottom left corner of MapInfo to Cursor Location.



Editing Coordinates

If after extracting them, you realise that your coordinates are a bit off, you can easily change them by just double clicking on your point and editing the coordinates in the dialog box.

Alternatively, if you're working with polygons or polylines, you can use the DrawTools mapbasic application from the MapInfo Marketplace to edit each of the nodes (see right).



Working with Grid References?

Use the OS Grid Reference Search Tool to find and display OS Grid References in MapInfo (found in the MapInfo Marketplace in v17.0.3 or in the Community Downloads).