



# Importing ASCII Files Into Pathfinder Office And Converting Into Waypoints For TerraSync

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A waypoint is a feature that only have a name and coordinates; it does not contain any other attribute value information. Waypoints are a popular choice for navigation to survey markers and other locations.

## Formatting ASCII File

In order for Pathfinder Office to be able to read the ASCII file, you will have to have it formatted correctly. The supported ASCII file extensions are .asc, .csv, .tsv, and .txt. You will need to have at least the coordinates and description in your file. You can determine what order they will appear in the file. In the example below, the Tree\_ID field would be considered the description field. It's followed by the coordinated and it also contains an optional elevation field.

	A	B	C	D
1	Tree_ID	Easting	Northing	Elevation
2	100	1500662	386321.4	3979.992
3	101	1500667	386331.8	3950.57
4	102	1501072	385807.9	3951.562
5	103	1501558	385790.5	3950.569
6	104	1502505	385799.2	3951.58
7	105	1502088	385790.5	3950.325
8	106	1502505	386085.7	3949.236
9	107	1502097	386094.4	3950.54
10				

## Importing ASCII File

1. Open Pathfinder Office then go to File> Waypoints> ASCII Import.
2. Select the Browse button at the end of Input File and select the file that you wish to import.
3. Select the Browse button at the end of Output to determine the output file location.
4. Next you will need to fill out the setting information for your file.

**Input file format:** You will need to select the order that your coordinates and description fields are in. The table to the right describes what each letter means. My example file is in DENZ.

**Field Separated By:** This will be a comma unless you have a text file that uses a period.

**Do Not Import Rows Starting With:** If you have a line, such as a comment line that you wish not to import. You can enter comment in this field and it will skip those lines starting with comment.

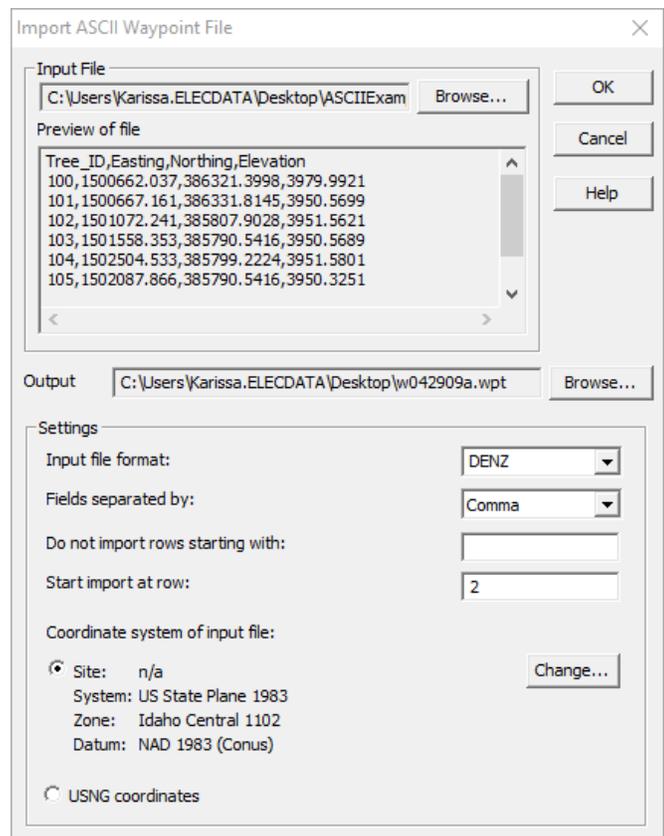
**Start Import At Row:** You will need to specify the line in which your data is located at. If there is no header in the file then it will start at 1. If there are headers or other information at the beginning of the file then you will need to specify another number. My example file has a header so the starting row will be 2.

**Coordinate System of Input File:** You will need to make the input coordinate system match the coordinate system that the data is in.

*Note: Make sure you set the same coordinate system under Options> Coordinate System. This will allow you to check that the waypoints imported correctly. You can change it to a different coordinate system after you have checked your data.*

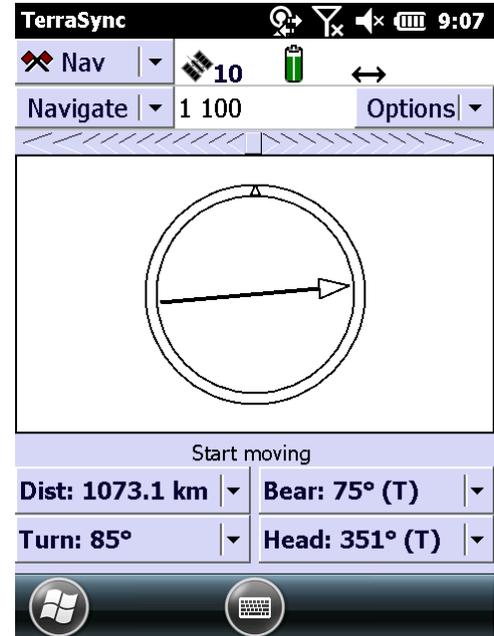
5. Click OK to import the file once you have the setting set correctly.
6. You can view the waypoints on the map and in the Waypoint Properties window.
7. Open the Data Transfer.
8. Click on the Send tab.
9. Click the Add button and choose Waypoint.
10. Browse to the location that you saved the waypoint file.
11. Highlight the file and click Open
12. Click Transfer All to transfer the file to the GPS device.

Letter	Description	Number of times it can occur in the file
N	Northing or Latitude	1
E	Easting or Longitude	1
U	USNG coordinate	1
Z	Elevation	0 or 1
D	Description (this will be the name of the waypoint)	0 or 1
-	Field won't be imported	Any



## Navigating in TerraSync

1. Open TerraSync on the GPS device under Start> Programs> TerraSync or Start> TerraSync.
2. Change the top dropdown to Navigation and the bottom dropdown to Waypoints.
3. Select your file from the list and choose Open.
4. Select the waypoint that you wish to navigate to.
5. Click on Options> Set Nav Target.
6. Change the dropdown for Waypoint to Navigation to view the direction you need to go and how far away it is. The direction of the waypoint can also be viewed in the Map screen.
7. When you are done navigating to this waypoint, you can either choose Option on the Navigation screen and choose to Go To Next Unvisited Waypoint or go back to the Navigation/ Waypoint click on Options and choose Clear Nav Targets. You can repeat the above steps to select another waypoint to navigate to.



*Note– For better accuracy navigating to waypoints, turn on Integrated SBAS or connect to a VRS if possible. These settings can be found in TerraSync under Setup> Real-time Settings.*