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Insights from Googlers into our products, technology, and the Google culture

Mapping your way

February 8, 2005

We think maps can be useful and fun, so we've designed [Google Maps](#) to simplify how to get from point A to point B. Say you're looking for "hotels near LAX." With Google Maps you'll see nearby hotels plotted right on a crisp new map (we use new rendering methods to make them easier to read). Click and drag the map to view the adjacent area dynamically - there's no wait for a new image to download. Or get step-by-step directions to where you're headed. If a particular intersection on the route looks tricky, click on that step in the directions to see a magnified view. Play with the keyboard shortcuts (arrow keys to pan or the +/- keys to zoom in and out) too. The [tour](#) shows you even more. Happy trails.

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