How to Find Your FIRM and Make a FIRMMette

http://msc.fema.gov

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Getting Started

• A Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) is an official flood map used in the National Flood Insurance Program

• A FIRMette is a full-scale section of a FIRM that you create yourself

First, navigate to the Map Service Center homepage, http://msc.fema.gov
Step One
Find Your Flood Map

- There are several ways to find and access a FIRM
- Some of these options make use of the Bing™ Map interface, while others take you straight to a listing of one or more FIRMs
- From the FIRM, you may make a smaller FIRMette
Step One
Option A: Search by Address

To find a FIRM for a specific address, you may use Product Search by Address on the MSC homepage.

Enter an address or place of interest in “Product Search by”

Search by place of interest is only available when “Map-based Search” is enabled. Map-based Searches will display the result on a graphical map. Searches without this option will return a list of associated FIRMs.
Step One
Option A: Search by Address

- Similar to Product Search by Address, you can locate the FIRM for a specific address through the “Map Search” option
- Enter an address or place of interest on the map search page and hit the magnifying glass

The Flood Maps product type and Road Map base map will be selected by default. If you prefer to use different layers, move your cursor over the Base Map menu and select Aerial Imagery or Aerial with Labels.
Step One

Option A: Search by Address

The MSC Product Search page will display your map panel location superimposed over a map of the area.

To create a FIRMette, click the panel number under “Retrieve Printed FIRM Panel”
Step One

Option A: Search by Address

The Map Search Results page will display the options for your map

• To view the FIRM Panel and make a FIRMette using the MSC’s Intranetix Viewer, click the “View” button
• To purchase a copy of your map, click the "Buy" button

To see a list of Letters of Map Change issued for that panel, hit the + under “Show LOMC”
Step One

Option B: Zoom in Using the Map

- On the map search page, **zoom in on your area of interest**
- To re-center the screen to your desired location when zooming, drag the map so that the target area is at the center
- When you have zoomed in to the level at which you can see the individual blue FIRM Panel borders and numbers, **click the “Select” button** at the top left of map
After you hit “Select,” the resulting dropdown menu will allow you to pick one of two options: 1) either “Click a point” to select a panel…
Step One

**Option B: Zoom in Using the Map**

…or 2) “Draw a box” on the map by clicking and holding on a point and dragging the cursor to select multiple panels at once.
Step One

Option B: Zoom in Using the Map

To view your flood map or to create a FIRMette, click either the panel number that appears as a link under “Retrieve Printed FIRM Panel” or, if you have selected multiple panels, the “Retrieve Printed FIRM Panel(s)” link.
The Map Search Results page will display the options for your map.

**Step One**

**Option B: Zoom in Using the Map**

To see a list of Letters of Map Change issued for that panel, hit the + under “Show LOMC”.

- To view the FIRM Panel and **make a FIRMette using the MSC’s Intranetix Viewer**, click the “View” button.
- To purchase a copy of your map, click the "Buy" button.
Step One
Option C: Product Catalog

- Finally, you may find the FIRMs for your community using the Product Catalog
- Select “Product Catalog” from the navigation bar at the top of the homepage, and then select “Effective FIRMs/FHBM"s"
Step One

Option C: Product Catalog

On the following page, progress through the option tree

Selecting each option will cause the next one in the sequence to appear, concluding with the button that will bring up all of the FIRMs for your desired community
To view a FIRM Panel and make a FIRMette, click the “View” button.

To see a list of Letters of Map Change issued for that panel, hit the + under “Show LOMC”.
Step One

Option D: Quick Order

If you know the IDs of the FIRMs you want, access them using Quick Order. Either click on “Map Panel ID” in the “Product Search by…” window and input the panel IDs or select “Quick Order” from the navigation bar and enter the panel IDs on the Quick Order page.
The Quick Order Search Results page will display the FIRM panels you have entered. To see a list of Letters of Map Change issued for that panel, hit the + under “Show LOMC.”

- To view the FIRM Panel and make a FIRMette using the MSC’s Intranetix Viewer, click the “View” button.
- To purchase a copy of your map, click the "Buy" button.

To see a list of Letters of Map Change issued for that panel, hit the + under “Show LOMC”.
Step Two
Making FIRMettes in Intranetix Viewer

A new window will appear, containing the Intranetix Viewer, which will display the selected FIRM panel.

Click on the “Make a FIRMette” button.
Step Two
Making FIRMettes in Intranetix Viewer

Click, hold, and drag the pink layer to cover the area you want in your FIRMette

Choose your paper size

To reposition the title block or scale and north arrow, click the appropriate button and drag the newly pink layer.
Step Two
Making FIRMettes in Intranetix Viewer

- You may use the Zoom and Pan functions to more precisely identify the area you want in your FIRMette.
- However, you must be zoomed out all the way in order to make a FIRMette correctly.

When ready, click on your preferred output format, “Adobe PDF” or “Image File”
Step Two
Making FIRMettes in Intranetix Viewer

• Your FIRMette will appear and can be saved to your hard drive

• You can also go back and make additional FIRMettes from the same panel
Once saved and/or opened in your local viewer, you can print out the FIRMettes on the appropriate-sized paper corresponding to your earlier selection.
Troubleshooting

For technical assistance, please use the “Help” feature or contact the Map Service Center

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http://msc.fema.gov