

Mark Johnson  
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Tolkien Estate Limited  
Prama House,  
267 Banbury Road,  
Oxford OX2 7HT  
England, United Kingdom

### **Request for information about a specific map and the conditions for use of that map for educational purposes of an Open-Source Project**

I would be interested in receiving information about a map called 'Map of Middle Earth from Lord of the Rings' and can be presently found at:

<http://www.donsmaps.com/middleearthmap.html>

The comment from that site states:

'This is the best quality map of Middle Earth I have seen. It appears to be from an old edition of LOTR.'

To my knowledge, however, the first edition of the LOTR used a map similar in form to the present day used map.

As a contributor to the Spatialite/RasterLite2 project

<https://www.gaia-gis.it/fossil/libspatialite/index>  
<https://www.gaia-gis.it/fossil/librasterlite2/index>

and the QGIS project

<https://www.qgis.org/en/site/>

as well as the Gdal/OGR project

<http://www.gdal.org/>

The 3 project work closely together, each completing different tasks for GIS (Geographic Information Systems) usage.

When creating tutorials, supplying Image and Data is often common so that the step by step instructions can followed, making the learning process easier.

Experience has shown when the user are interested in the material being used, the success of the tutorial is heighten.

Since the theme 'Middle Earth from Lord of the Rings' is widely known, I believe the use of this, one specific, map would be useful in attaining the main goal in learning how to use the different portions of tasks done in a GIS environment.

For these reasons I would like to ask under what conditions, if any, the image can be used for test and tutorials for the above 3 named projects.

Since these projects are all open source (i.e. all files used for the project are freely available for anyone), great care must be taken to insure that none of these files cause any copyright conflicts.

To my knowledge, the 'Tolkien Estate' holds all rights to the 'Middle Earth' maps, thus if this image was to be used a license (as a pdf) must be included.

Since the QGIS is, world wide, widely used, independent teaching seminars are quite common. So this aspect should also be taken into consideration, as to whether this image could be included as a portion of the tutorial material.

At present the original image (3200x2400 pixel) is used as a non-georeferenced image. That image has been georeferenced using the EPSG 3050 ("European\_Terrestrial\_Reference\_System\_1989") projection. No further changes to the image would be made.

Not being a copyright expert, I hope that the given information is sufficient to insure, if at all, a proper use of the image can be achieved.

Yours truly,

Mark Johnson

P.S. This request was originally sent through your contact service:

<http://www.tolkienestate.com/en/paths/contacts.html#contact>

2017-07-31 11:31 CEST

Thank you !

Your message has been sent.

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**FW: Tolkien Map reques**

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**Cathleen Blackburn** <cathleen.blackburn@maierblackburn.com>  
An: "mj10777@googlemail.com" <mj10777@googlemail.com>

18. Dezember 2017 um 19:45

Resending to 'mj10777@googlemail.com' after undelivered notice from 'mj10777@googlemail.com' (per your letter).

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Cathleen Blackburn  
Partner

**maier blackburn**

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**From:** Cathleen Blackburn  
**Sent:** 16 December 2017 18:22  
**To:** 'mj10777@googlemail.com'  
**Subject:** Tolkien Map request : JRR001-0006

Dear Mr Johnson,

Thank you for your letter of 16 November addressed to the Tolkien Estate. I apologise for the delay in replying.

Unfortunately, though your project sounds very interesting, I regret that the Tolkien maps are not available for licensing in the manner you propose.

I am sorry that I am not able to be more helpful.

With kind regards,

-----

Cathleen Blackburn

Partner

**maier blackburn**

Prama House

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**FW: Tolkien Map reques**

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Mark Johnson &lt;mj10777@googlemail.com&gt;

19. Dezember 2017 um 04:03

An: Cathleen Blackburn &lt;cathleen.blackburn@maierblackburn.com&gt;

2017-12-18 19:45 GMT+01:00 Cathleen Blackburn &lt;cathleen.blackburn@maierblackburn.com&gt;:

Resending to [mj10777@googlemail.com](mailto:mj10777@googlemail.com) after undelivered notice from [mj10777@googlemail.com](mailto:mj10777@googlemail.com) (per your letter).

Sorry about that, this is not the first time that 'ogg' instead of 'oog' has been typed.

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Cathleen Blackburn

Partner

**maier blackburn**

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