

# MAP SCALE

Definition, interpretation...

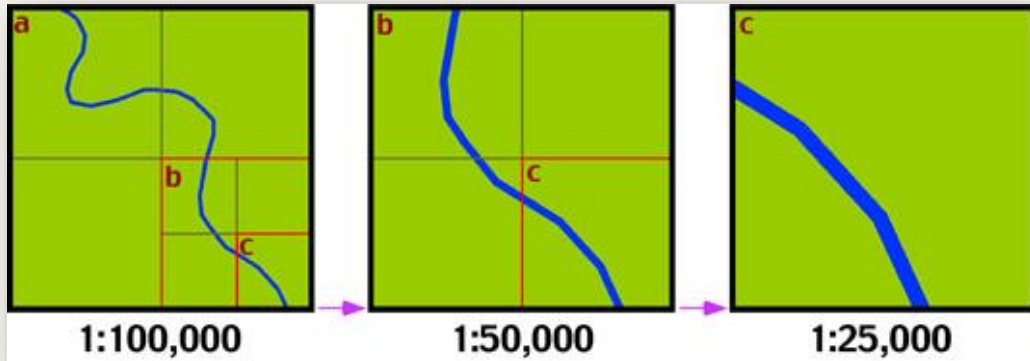


# DEFINITION

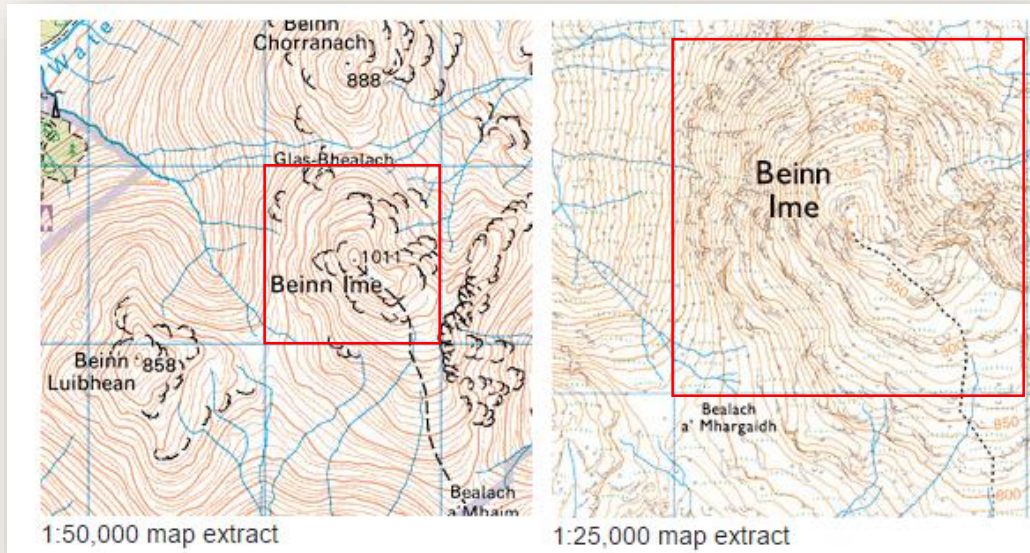
« A map scale shows the relationship between the distance on the ground and the corresponding distance on a specific map. In Ireland, the most common map scale is 1 :50000, which means that every centimeter on the map represents 50,000cm or 500 meters on the ground »



# DIFFERENT SCALES

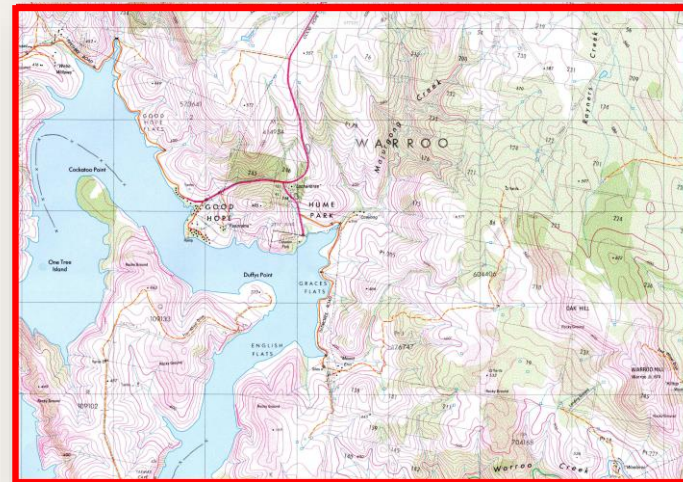
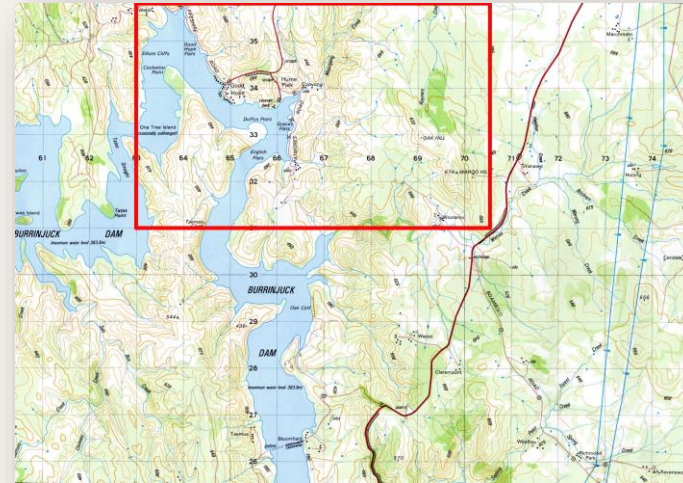


- **1: 25 000** → Not as common, only available in popular areas like Wicklow & Killarney (1cm = 250m)
- **1: 30 000** → Private map makers eg: East West Maps & Harvey Superwalker. Again, these only cover special interest areas.
- **1: 50 000** → Most common national standard map scale in Ireland for hiking (1cm = 500m)



# DIFFERENT SCALES

- If you use a larger scale like 1:50000 for example, there will be less details, the map will be less precise and it will cover a larger area.
- If you use a smaller scale like 1:25000 for example, there will be more details because the map covers a smaller area so it will be more precise.



# INTERPRETATION



**SCALE - 1 : 50 000**

1cm = 500m

On the map, the distance between the point A and the point B is 3cm on the map.

So on the ground, the distance between points A and B is:

1 cm = 500 m

3 cm = 3 x 500 = 1500 m = 1,5km