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- QuickMapServices
- QuickOSM



1. Creating Maps

This section is designed to help you get familiar with the basic workflow of importing data layers, applying symbology, adding labels, and designing layouts for maps. We will take a text file containing historical records of earthquakes and turn it into an informative visualization like the one below.



1.1 Importing Vector Data

1. Open QGIS. The first step is to import the source datasets. Click on the *Open Data Source Manager* button.





2. Select the *Vector* tab. Click the ... button next to *Vector Dataset(s)* and browse to the data directory.

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3. Select the ne_10m_1and.shp file and click Open. In the Data Source Manager window, click Add.

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4. A new layer, ne_10m_1and will be added to the *Layers* panel and displayed on the Canvas. This layer contains polygons representing the land areas of the world. Click on the *Open Data Source Manager* button again.

Help



5. Click the ... button next to *Vector Dataset(s)* and browse to the data directory. Select the gem_active_faults_harmonized.gpkg file and click *Open* followed by *Add*.

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6. A new layer, gem_active_faults_harmonized will be added to the *Layers* panel and displayed on the Canvas. This is a global layer containing lines representing all the active faults. We will now import another layer of earthquake points. Click on the *Open Data Source Manager* button again.



7. Select the *Delimited Text* tab. Click the ... button next to *File name* and browse to the data directory. Select the

significant_earthquakes_2000_2020.tsv file. This is a text file in the *Tab-Separated Values (TSV) format*. In the *File Format* section, select *Custom delimiters*.

Note: Windows users may need to change the *File Type* as **All** in *Choose a Delimited Text File to Open* dialog to see the TSV file.

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Raster	▼ File Format
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8. Check the *Tab* checkbox. In the *Geometry Definition* section, ensure Longitude is selected as the *X* Field and Latitude is selected as the *Y* Field. Choose EPSG:4326 as Geometry CRS. Leave other options to their default values and click Add.

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Vector	Layer name significant_earthquakes_2000_2020 Encoding UTF-8
Raster	▼ File Format
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9. A new layer, significant_earthquakes_2000_2020 will be added to the *Layers* panel and displayed on the Canvas. This layer contains over 1000 records of significant earthquakes recorded between 2000 and 2020. Right-click on the significant_earthquakes_2000_2020 layer and select *Open Attribute Table*. Examine all the attributes and their values.



10. We will now learn about some of the tools to query and select records. From the *Selection Toolbar*, click the *Select Features by Value…* button.

Note: If the selection toolbar is not enabled, right-click on the toolbar panel and check **Selection Toolbar**.



11. In the Select Features dialog, enter **2020** as the Year and click the Select Features button. You will see all earthquakes that occurred during 2020 will be highlighted in yellow. You may also click the *Flash Features* button to see the selected records blink.



12. Let's refine the query a little more. Enter **7** as the *Mag* parameter and set the criteria as *Greater than (>)*. Click *Select Features*. You will now see only those points where the earthquake occurred in 2020, and its magnitude was greater than 7. Close the window.

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13. Right-click on the significant_earthquakes_2000_2020 layer and select *Open Attribute Table*. You will see that there are 6 selected features in the layer. If you want to examine their attributes, there is a

handy shortcut. Click the Move selection to top button.



14. All the selected rows will be displayed on the top of the attribute table making it easy to examine the selected features. Click the *Deselect all features from the layer* button.



15. For our map, we need another layer of 10 largest earthquakes - so we can style it differently than other earthquakes. For our visualization, we will define the largest earthquakes like the ones that resulted in the

highest number of deaths. Locate the *Total Deaths* attribute and click twice on the column header. This will sort the features in descending order of the values in this column.

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16. Hold the Shift key and select the first 10 rows. This selection will be the

10 earthquakes with the high fatalities.

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17. We will save the selected 10 features as a new layer. Right-click the significant_earthquakes_2000_2020 layer and go to $Export \rightarrow$

Save Selected Features As...



18. Select **GeoPackage** as the *Format*. Click the ... button next to *File name* and browse to the data directory. Name the layer as

large_earthquakes.gpkg.Click Save.Click OK.

• • •	Save Vector Layer as						
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19. A new layer, large_earthquakes will be added to the Layers panel.



20. Our data preparation is now complete. Let's save our work. Go to Project

 \rightarrow Save. Browse to the data directory and enter the name as

Earthquakes. Click Save.



21. The project will be saved in the QGZ format as a file.

