



GpsGate BuddyTracker

User Guide

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1 Introduction

Welcome to the GpsGate BuddyTracker User Guide! This guide covers the functionality in BuddyTracker from a user perspective. If you have any questions then ask your GpsGate Server Site Administrator.



With BuddyTracker you can share your position, and follow your friends and pets. You can also look at your own track history to see where you have been. You can join both public and private groups and share you position with different people. You are always in control with the BuddyTracker approach to tracking as it lets you decide who you are visible to and what groups you want to join.

Thanks you for using GpsGate BuddyTracker!

The GpsGate Team

2 Web Interface

All you need to use the GpsGate BuddyTracker application is a browser and a connection to the internet.

The recommended browser for GpsGate BuddyTracker is Firefox 2.0 or later and Internet Explorer 7 or later. GpsGate BuddyTracker also supports Internet Explorer 6, Opera 9 and Safari 3.1.

3 Getting started

This chapter gives you a quick overview of BuddyTracker and how you get started. Please have a look at the other chapters for additional details.

3.1 BuddyTracker Overview

To use BuddyTracker you need a BuddyTracker account, and to send your position to BuddyTracker you need a GPS device with an Internet connection.

When you login to your BuddyTracker account the Maps / Home page will automatically open. You find the different pages in BuddyTracker in the top menu.



The page you are currently on is marked with an orange line in the menu. Notifications are displayed with a green line. If the Groups page is highlighted a user has sent you a request to join one of your Groups, or if the Invite page has a green line this means that a user has sent you an invitation request.

Maps / Home

The main page in BuddyTracker with your map view, a list of all your Buddies and Groups and access to your Track history.

Invite

On the Invite page you can invite new Buddies and manage your exiting Buddies.

Groups

The Group page is where you create new groups or join existing ones. You also manage your own exiting groups here.

Preferences

The Preferences page is where you manage your personal account settings.

Help

Here you have access to the BuddyTracker Help pages.

Log out

Click Logout to logout from BuddyTracker

The BuddyTracker user interface is explained in more detail in the following chapters.

3.2 Account Creation

If you have not already signed up for a BuddyTracker account you should do that at GpsGate.com.

Follow this guide to get an account: <http://gpsgate.com/index.php?id=12>

Note: If you are using another GpsGate Server installation, please ask your GpsGate Server administrator for sign-up instructions.

3.3 Connecting a GPS to BuddyTracker

To send position updates to BuddyTracker you need to connect a GPS device to GpsGate Server over the Internet. The two main device types are:

- GpsGate Client (available for Windows computers, Windows mobile devices and Java mobile phones)
- Dedicated GPS tracking devices.

GpsGate Client:

GpsGate Client is a client product that can be downloaded from GpsGate.com. It is identified as a BuddyTracker user with a Username and Password. Please look at these online guides for connection instructions:

Windows: <http://gpsgate.com/index.php?id=30>

Windows Mobile: <http://gpsgate.com/index.php?id=40>

Mobile phone (Java): <http://gpsgate.com/index.php?id=42>

Dedicated GPS tracking devices:

Tracking devices all have different identification methods. The most common is the use of an id number or the device IMEI number. Please look at these connection guides for supported devices and a generic guide for most devices using a NEMA based message format:

Supported devices list: <http://gpsgate.com/index.php?id=41>

Generic guide: <http://gpsgate.com/index.php?id=45>

4 Maps / Home View

On your Maps / Home page you have three main sections, the left column, your main map and the Information and Tracks panel below the map. The sections are explained in detail below the picture.

The screenshot shows the GpsGate BuddyTracker web interface. At the top, it says "Logged in as: mcuz" and has navigation links for "Maps / Home", "Invite", "Groups", "Preferences", "Help", and "Log out". The main content is divided into two columns. The left column contains two tables: "My Buddies" and "My Groups". The "My Buddies" table lists users with columns for Name, Last seen, Visible, and Status. The "My Groups" section shows a dropdown menu with "Beer_enthusiasts" selected and another table listing group members. The right column features a map of Stockholm with a red location marker for "BJORN". A pop-up window displays the user's coordinates (Lat: 59.34255, Lon: 18.05731), altitude (0.0 m), and heading (N (0.0°)). Below the map is an information panel for "BJORN" with tabs for "Info BJORN" and "My Tracks". The "Info BJORN" tab shows user and position details.

Name	Last seen	Visible	Status
BJORN	08-03-18	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
canislupus	-	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dirz	07-06-12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Henrik	08-04-07	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Johan	08-02-26	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
mcuz	08-02-11	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Test6	07-11-26	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Name	Last seen	Visible	Status
BJORN	08-03-18	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Henrik	08-04-07	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Johan	08-02-26	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
mcuz	08-02-11	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
schmorgen	08-03-06	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Strider	08-01-16	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

User Info:	Position Info:
Username: BJORN	Latitude: 59.34255
Name: Björn	Longitude: 18.05731
	Altitude: 0.0 meters
	Last updated: 2008-03-18 17:51:30
	Heading: N, 0.0°
	Speed: 0.0 Km/h
	0.0 Mph

4.1 My Buddies

When you enter the Maps / Home page your Buddy list will be selected by default. Here you can see the status of your Buddies. You can select a Buddy by clicking on the name in the list or by clicking on the username on the map. In both cases your Buddy will be highlighted in the list and the username on the map will change from red to green. A window with information about position, altitude and heading will also appear on the map. You can hide the info "bubble" by clicking the "X" icon in the top right corner. You will also see more detailed information about the user in the information panel below the map.

By default all your Buddies are displayed on the map. If you like to clear some Buddies from the map you can un-check the check-box in the Visible column next to the Buddy name.

You also have the ability to sort the list in different order by clicking on the respective column name in the list headers.

4.2 Group List

Below the Buddy list you find a list with the Groups you are a member of. If you currently have no Group memberships then this section will be greyed out.

You select the Group List by either clicking on the tab named My Groups, selecting a user in the list or by choosing a Group in the drop down menu. The list works in the same way as your Buddy list explained above.



Status icons explained:

- Green** = User is currently online with an updated position
- Red** = User is currently not sending his/her position.
- Yellow** = You are still waiting for the user to accept you invitation.
- Blue** = The user has never been seen

4.3 Tracks

All your historical Tracks are located under the My Tracks tab in the information panel below the map. You select a Track in the drop down menu. The start and end time will be displayed in the two fields. To draw the selected Track on the map press the Show Track button.

The screenshot shows the GpsGate BuddyTracker web interface. At the top, it says 'Logged in as: mcuz' and has navigation tabs for 'Maps / Home', 'Invite', 'Groups', 'Preferences', 'Help', and 'Log out'. On the left, there are sections for 'My Buddies' and 'My Groups'. The 'My Buddies' section contains a table with columns for Name, Last seen, Visible, and Status. The 'My Groups' section shows a dropdown menu set to 'Beer_enthusiasts' and another table with similar columns. Below these are 'Map options' including a checkbox for 'Follow selected User' and a 'Show all on map' button. A legend indicates status icons for 'Sending', 'Not sending', 'Pending', and 'Never been seen'. The main area is a map showing a green track. At the bottom, there is an 'Info BJORN' panel with a 'My Tracks' tab. The 'My Tracks' panel has a 'Select Track:' dropdown menu showing '2007-09-22 2:50:21 - markus track'. Below this, it displays 'Distance 3.813Km 2.37mi', 'Start 2007-09-21 18:16:10', and 'Stop 2007-09-22 2:50:21'. To the right, there is a 'Define Track:' section with 'Format ex: 2007-12-31 21:15:00', 'Start' and 'Stop' input fields, and buttons for 'Show Track' and 'Delete Track'.

If you like to narrow down the track to only display a selected time period you can type in a new start and stop time.

Note: that you have to type in the date and time in a correct format.

Below the drop down menu you see information about total distance and start and stop time. If you have defined a new start and stop time the total selected distance will be displayed under the start and stop fields.

You can delete a selected Track by pressing the Delete Track button.

4.4 Map Options

You have two main map options. When the follow selected user option is enabled the map will automatically re-center on the User when the User moves.



You also have the **Show all on map** button. When you click this button the map will zoom to a level where all the Users are visible on the map.

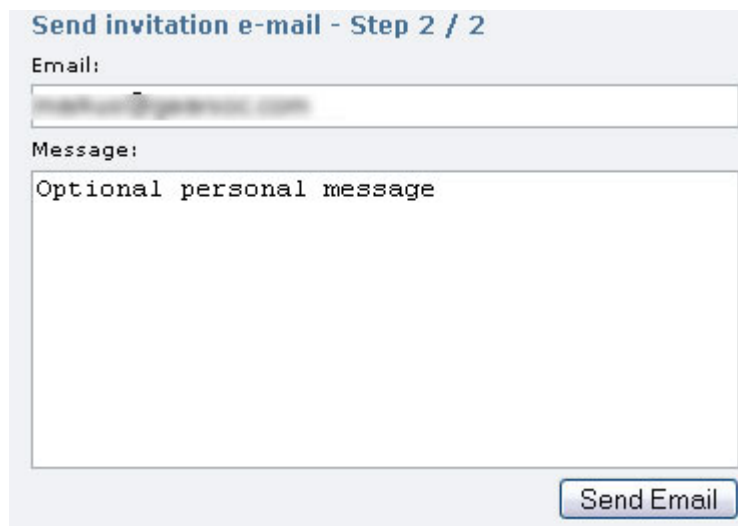
5 Inviting users

You can invite both existing users and people that are not yet members in BuddyTracker to join your Buddy List. This is done by Clicking the **Invite** link in the top menu.

Type in an existing user name or enter a valid email address in the Invite field and press the **Invite** button.



If the person you like to invite is not yet a member you will see the form below. You have the option to write a personal message but this is not mandatory. Press the **Send Email** button to finish.



An invitation email will now be sent to the email address you entered. When the person creates an account and accepts you invitation the user will change status in your Buddy List from pending to active.

If the user name or email is already registered to an existing BuddyTracker user then all you have to do is to click the **Invite** link next to the user name in the list below.

Invite buddy - Step 2 / 2
 A Buddy with e-mail: [redacted] was already registered!
 Click "Invite" to add the Buddy to your Buddy list

Henrik	- Invite
--------	--------------------------

If the User name matches more then one user you will see all the matches in the list.

Note that the user you have invited has to accept your invitation.

5.1 Removing Buddies

You can remove Buddies from your Buddy List as well. This is done from the **Invite** page found in the top menu. On the right side of the page you find a list with your existing Buddies. Click on the **Delete** link to the right of the Buddy you wish to remove. Confirm that you want to remove the User by pressing **Yes** or **No**.

Manage your Buddies

Buddy name	Status	remove buddy	Yes / No
canislupus	Pending Confirm		
BJORN	Member	Delete	
Johan	Member	Delete	
Test6	Member	Delete	
Henrik	Member	Delete	
Dirz	Member	Delete	

6 Groups

In BuddyTracker you have the possibility to create additional groups of users. You can create as many Groups as you like. A Group is a set of users that share a common interest or have other connections that make grouping suitable.

As a Group owner you have the ability to change information, user rights and security options for your Group. To make changes and to a Group you go to the **Groups** page and click on the desired Group under the list named **My Groups**.

The Group page is divided into three columns as shown in the picture below.

The screenshot shows the GpsGate.com BuddyTracker Groups page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Maps / Home, Invite, Groups (selected), Preferences, Help, and Log out. The user is logged in as 'mcuz'. The page is divided into three columns:

- My Groups:** Lists group roles: Owner (gone_fishing, Beer_enthusiasts, StarsNav), Moderator (GpsGate.com, gpsninas), Member (Franson), Prospect, Pending, and Member. A note says "New prospect in this Group."
- New Groups:** A table with columns 'Name of Group' and 'Members':

Name of Group	Members
93838584	629
PatarucoTest	
WFLD	
quickfreddieTransPortugal	
RNS	
vadoavela	
safunkarapa	
TsuenWanese	
micksgroup	
crazy	
- Popular Groups:** A table with columns 'Name of Group' and 'Members':

Name of Group	Members
GpsGate.com	629
Eagle GPS Thailand	182
trkr75	83
GPSPocketPC Forum	66
TIKI_TestGroup	51
GPS Thailand	40
trackertaggers	31
nostars	25
sintry	24
DushelovTest	21
- Search for groups:** Includes a search bar, a 'Public only' checkbox, a 'Search' button, and a note "Minimum search string is 3 characters". Below is a section titled "Create your own Group today!!" with a "Group name:" field, a "Description:" text area, and radio buttons for "Public" (selected) and "Private", followed by a "Create" button.

At the bottom of the page, it says "GpsGate.com Version:1.3.2.483" and "© 2007 Franson Technology AB. All rights reserved | Contact | Help Forum".

My Groups is where you see the groups you are a member of. Your Groups are divided into different sections depending on your member status.

New Groups and **Popular Groups**. Here you see the newest Groups and the Groups that have the most members. If you click on a Group name you are taken to the selected Groups information page. If you like to apply for membership in a Group this is done by clicking the **Join** button on that page.

Search for Groups and **Create your own Group**. In the right column you can search for all existing Groups. Type in a search criteria that contains at least three characters and press the **Search** button. You will now see a list with all your matches. You also have the option to only display Public Groups by selecting the **Public Only** check-box next to the search field.

If you like to see a list with all existing Groups then click on the List Groups link above the search field.

If you like to start your own group use the form on the bottom of the right column named "Create our own Group today".

6.1 Creating Groups

Type in the name of the Group you like to create and a short description and press the **Create** button.

You have to option if you would like your Group to be Private or Public. The difference between a the two options is that a Public group shows its members positions for all users regardless if they are members in the Group or not. To prevent this you can set the Group as Private. By doing this only Group members can see each others positions.

When you have created a Group you will find it both in your **Group list** on your **Maps / Home** page and in the left column on the **Groups** page.

6.2 Joining existing Groups

You can apply for membership in any Group in BuddyTracker. This is done by pressing the **Join** button on the desired Groups Information page. There are different ways to find a Group. New Groups and popular Groups are listed directly on the **Groups** page. Just click on any of the Groups to go to the Information page. Or you can use the Group search function in the right column of the Groups page. There is also the option to list all existing Groups.

6.3 Accepting Join requests

All Users in BuddyTracker can apply for membership in your Group. If a User has sent a request the Group link in the top menu will be underlined with a green line. To accept or deny the request go to the Groups page. The affected Group will have a green icon next to the Group name. Click on the Group in the list. You now have the option to **Accept** or **Deny** the request.

6.4 Edit Group details

If you click on the Edit Group details button found on the Group information page you will have the options to change description and alter your Groups visibility between private and Public. Apply the changes by pressing the **Save** button.

The screenshot displays the GpsGate BuddyTracker web interface. At the top, the user is logged in as 'mcuz'. The navigation menu includes 'Maps / Home', 'Invite', 'Groups', 'Preferences', 'Help', and 'Log out'. The main content area is titled 'My Groups' and shows a list of groups with roles: Owner (gone_fishing), Beer_enthusiasts, StarsNav, Moderator (GpsGate.com, gpsninas), Member (Franson), Prospect, Pending, and Member. A notification states 'New prospect in this Group.' The selected group, 'gone_fishing', is shown with the following details:

- Description:** follow my on my fishing trip to the Swedish west coast.
- Group visibility:** Public
- Members:** 1
- Owner:** mcuz
- Created:** 6/1/2007 1:20:46 PM

 Below the group details are 'Save' and 'Cancel' buttons. The 'GpsGate Web Services permission settings' section includes a text input field for 'Sites with permission' and an 'Add' button. A list shows a single entry: 'http://md-media.se/'. A note explains that these settings limit group visibility on web pages. At the bottom right, there is a 'Search for groups' section with a search box, a 'Public only' checkbox, and a 'Create your own Group today!!' section with fields for 'Group name' (my_group) and 'Description', and a 'Create' button. The footer contains version information and copyright details for Franson Technology AB.

Below the description and information form you have a section named **GpsGate Web Services permission settings**. It is possible to display your Public Group on any web page using GpsGate Web Services. More detailed information about Gpsgate Web services usage is found in the GpsGate Web Services chapter.


Note: To give you total control over which web pages that can display your Group you have the option to white list sites with permission. If you leave this field blank then you don't block any sites from showing your Group.


6.5 Edit Group member status

There are three types of user in a Group. Owners, Moderators and regular Members. As the Owner you have the option to give other members Moderator rights. A Moderator can accept or deny join-requests from other Users but can not change any Groups settings.





Info | Map | **Member list**

Members in Group:

Owner:
mcuz 

Moderators:
Henrik  [Change status to member](#) [Remove](#)

Members:

BJORN		Change status to moderator	Remove
Johan		Change status to moderator	Remove
schmorgen		Change status to moderator	Remove
Strider		Change status to moderator	Remove

Prospects:

To change a members rights you have to go to the Member list under your Groups info page. To the right of every member you have two options. Change status and Remove.

7 Preferences

Under the Preferences link in the top menu you find different ways to change your Users settings. On the top of the Preferences page you find a sub menu from which you navigate to the different settings pages. Each page is explained below.

7.1 Click Position

Logged in as: mcuz Maps / Home Invite Groups **Preferences** Help Log out

[Change ClickPosition](#) | [User info](#) | [Device settings](#) | [Track settings](#)

Change ClickPosition:

Map Satellite Hybrid

Your current position
Longitude: 17.88975
Latitude: 59.35527

Your New ClickPosition
Longitude:
Latitude:

ClickPosition

If you don't own a GPS device or GpsGate software you can still share your position with other Members with our ClickPosition feature.

Change your current ClickPosition by moving the red marker on the map to the position of your liking.
When done click on Change. Your new ClickPosition will now be visible for your Buddies and the Members in your Groups.

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Even if you don't have a GPS you can still show your position to other Users. Drag the red marker on the map by holding down your left mouse button. When you are satisfied press the Save button on the right side of the map. This will instantly update your position.

You can see the coordinates of your last seen position as well as the marker's new position.

7.2 User info

On the User Info page you have the option the change your current password and set a new email to your account.

Set new password by typing in your old/ existing password and then the new password that you want to use. You also have to retype your new password to verify it. Press the Save button to apply the changes. Next time you log in to BuddyTracker use your new password.

Change Email by typing in the email account that you would like to use in the same field as your old email is stated. Note that you will not get any notification or an email so please check that you have typed in the right email address. Save your new email address by pressing the Save button below the email field.

The screenshot shows two forms. The first form, titled 'Set new password:', has three input fields: 'Your old password:', 'New password:', and 'Retype new password:'. A 'Save' button is located below the 'Retype new password:' field. The second form, titled 'Change Email', has one input field for the email address and a 'Save' button below it.

7.3 Device settings

You can attach GPS tracking devices to you account by entering a device name like “My device” and the device IMEI number and clicking the Add Device-button. The device will now be stored in a list below the Device fields. You can also edit and delete a device here.

For more information for specific devices, please have a look at the connection guides found in the link below.

<http://gpsgate.com/index.php?id=41>

The screenshot shows the 'Add device:' form with two input fields: 'IMEI:' and 'Device name:'. An 'Add device' button is located below the 'Device name:' field. Below the form is a table titled 'Devices:' with three columns: 'IMEI', 'Name', and 'Remove'.

IMEI	Name	Remove
36535463	test	Remove

7.4 Track settings

A Track is a collection of Geo coordinates. In the Track Recorder you specify when a new Track should start and how often a Track Point should be stored. You have two main options “**Globalsat TR-102 Personal Tracker**” and “**Generic (advanced)**”.

Globalsat TR-102 Personal Tracker

Select this option if a User or Vehicle is using a TR-102 GPS tracking device. For a TR-102 you can set the criteria for starting a new track based on the update interval and the distance between two position updates. You can also select the Update interval for the device.

Note: The Update interval setting for the TR-102 device affect the settings on the device itself.

Generic (advanced)

Select the Generic option if you are using any other GPS tracking device. First you can set the criteria for starting a new track based on the update interval and the distance between two position updates. Secondly you select the criteria for how often you want to store a new Track Point based on update interval, distance and direction change and movement.

Note: The Generic option settings will only apply to the server and not affect the device settings.

Track Display Settings

You have total control over which Groups you like to display your historical Tracks to. Change the status between Visible and Hidden in the list. Press the Save button to apply the settings.

8 Gpsgate Web services

GpsGate Web Services makes it possible to display a Public Group on any web page (exception of Groups with enabled white lists) using java script.

The easiest way to create your own Gpsgate Web Service is by clicking on the link to your Groups Public Event page found on your Groups Information page. There you will find a button named “Get Code”. Click on the button to go to a page with a simple form. Fill in the options and press the Get code button. Copy the generated code into your web site.

More information about GpsGate Web services and examples on what more you can do can be found here <http://gpsgate.com/index.php?id=64>