

# FlashCongressMapv1.2 - Installation Instructions

*All files are the property of [FlashUSAmap.com](http://FlashUSAmap.com). All rights reserved 2011.  
Each license gives you permission to use the map on one website at a time.  
If you have problems with your installation, email [chris@FlashUSAmap.com](mailto:chris@FlashUSAmap.com).*

## Step 1: Extract the files

If you have not already done so, extract all of the files from the flashcongressmapv1.2.zip. You can do this using software like WinZip, 7-Zip, or the built-in Windows extraction software

## Step 2: Test the Map

- a) Go to the folder you extracted and open test.html in a browser.
- b) You should see the map.
- c) Please note that depending on your browser's security settings, links may not work until you upload the map to your website.
- d) You can refresh the window to see changes as you make them in Step 3.

## Step 3: Customize the XML file

Open the file mapdata.xml with a text editor like Notepad. DO NOT use Microsoft Word! Read the file to become familiar with its structure.

Each Congressional district is considered in the Documentation as a "state".  
For each state there are five pieces of information you can edit:

<url>	The place you want to link to. You can leave this blank if you don't want to link anywhere.
<description>	Customize descriptions for each state using HTML.
<inactive>	If "yes" the state is inactive. No link, no change in color upon hover.
<overwritecolor>	<u>Leave as "no" if you want all states to be the same color</u> Overwrite <stateColor> (chosen later) for a specific state.
<overwriteover>	<u>Leave as "no" if you want all states to be the same color</u> Overwrite <stateOverColor> (chosen later) for a specific state.

Below are the settings that apply to all states.

IMPORTANT: You must put 0x in front of the color code (e.g. 0xFFFFFFFF for white).

<backColor>	Background color for Ocean/Canada etc. White by default.
<backAlpha>	Background Transparency. 0 is totally transparent. 1 is the opposite.
<stateColor>	Color of each state. Blue by default.
<stateOverColor>	Color of each state on hover. Dark Blue by default.
<inactive>	Color of inactive states. Same regardless of hover.
<opensurl>	Allows you to choose where links in your map will open. If “_self” links will open on the same page. If “_blank” links open in a new window (or tab).
<labelColor>	Color of state labels. White by default.

To customize the colors you must be familiar with 6-digit color codes. For your convenience, you can [use this color wheel](#) on our web site.

#### **Step 4: Upload the files to your server.**

Upload congressmap.swf and mapdata.xml file to your server in the folder where you plan to use them. Do not change the name of the files.

#### **Step 5: Embed the Flash object into your website.**

In this step you will choose the size of the map. Insert the following code into your web page:

```
<object classid="clsid:d27cdb6e-ae6d-11cf-96b8-444553540000"
codebase="http://download.macromedia.com/pub/shockwave/cabs/flash/swflash.cab#version=10,0,0,0" width="775" height="450">
  <param name="allowScriptAccess" value="sameDomain" />
  <param name="allowFullScreen" value="false" />
  <param name="wmode" value="transparent" />
  <param name="movie" value="congressmap.swf?xmlPath=mapdata.xml" /><param
name="quality" value="high" />
  <embed src="congressmap.swf?xmlPath=mapdata.xml" quality="high" width="775"
height="450" allowScriptAccess="sameDomain" allowFullScreen="false"
type="application/x-shockwave-flash"
pluginspage="http://www.macromedia.com/go/getflashplayer" wmode="transparent" />
</object>
```

Replace the width and height attributes with your desired sizes.  
To keep proportions consistent: height = width\*0.580645161.

#### **Step 6: That's it! Your map should be working**

## Optional Feature: Using CSS with your map

You can now use CSS to style the HTML in your Flash Map. This gives you greater control of how state descriptions will appear. However, Flash only has limited support for CSS. You can only use some properties from the original CSS1 specification.

To use CSS with your map:

1. You must name your stylesheet **mapstyle.css**. There is an example stylesheet in the Source Files folder.
2. Your stylesheet must be in the same folder/directory as congressmap.swf
3. You can only use the following supported CSS properties:

Property	Permitted values
color	Only hexadecimal color values are supported. Named colors (such as blue) are not supported. Colors are written in the following format: #FF0000.
display	Supported values are inline, block, and none.
font-family	A comma-separated list of fonts to use, in descending order of desirability. Any font family name can be used. If you specify a generic font name, it is converted to an appropriate device font. The following font conversions are available: mono is converted to _typewriter, sans-serif is converted to _sans, and serif is converted to _serif.
font-size	Only the numeric part of the value is used. Units (px, pt) are not parsed; pixels and points are equivalent.
font-style	Recognized values are normal and italic.
font-weight	Recognized values are normal and bold.
leading	The amount of space that is uniformly distributed between lines. The value specifies the number of pixels that are added after each line. A negative value condenses the space between lines. Only the numeric part of the value is used. Units (px, pt) are not parsed; pixels and points are equivalent.
letter-spacing	The amount of space that is uniformly distributed between characters. The value specifies the number of pixels that are added after each character. A negative value condenses the space between characters. Only the numeric part of the value is used. Units (px, pt) are not parsed; pixels and points are equivalent.
margin-left margin-right text-indent	Only the numeric part of the value is used. Units (px, pt) are not parsed; pixels and points are equivalent.
text-align	Recognized values are left, center, right, and justify.
text-decoration	Recognized values are none and underline.
<a href="#">For more information see Adobe's Documentation</a>	

## Common Troubleshooting Problems:

**1. The map doesn't work with WordPress or another Content Management System.** Take a look at the directions in this [blog post](#) and contact us for help if you get stuck.

**2. When I click on a state, the link doesn't work.**

If you have the free version, linking has been disabled. If you own the full version, this problem is caused by your local Flash security settings. The problem will go away if you upload the map to your server. However, you can fix the problem locally by changing your security setting. Right click on the map and click "Settings". Then click on "Advanced". Click on "Global Security Settings." Click on "Always Allow" or create an exception for your local testing folder.