

# GridTracker

A quick lap of GridTracker

# How I found GridTracker?

After I decided to focus on getting on trying to hit some QRZ Goals or achievements utilizing digital and SSB modes, I was spending an extraordinary amount of time filling out Excel sheets and looking at maps to figure if folks who were calling CQ were in countries or states that I needed.

I figured there had to be a better way.

Excel Spreadsheet Examples, and scanning thru QRZ logs was just too time consuming.

So I did a search on tracking DXCC countries and States and came across this....

GridTracker:  
Gridtracker.org  
Documentation  
and download.

Limited  
Documentation,  
but what is there  
is good.

I will not be  
covering how to  
configure or set up  
GridTracker with  
WSJT-X but will be  
walking you thru  
some of its  
features and  
options.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `gridtracker.org/docs/`. The page has a dark theme and a navigation menu at the top right with links for `GridTracker`, `OAMS`, `Fun`, `Gift Shop`, `Donations`, `Policy`, and `SDR# Plugins`. The main heading is `Documentation` with the subtitle `An Amateur Radio Community`. The text on the page reads: `A living draft copy of the GridTracker Quick Start guide is here! It is a work in progress as is GridTracker itself! So expect changes to occur often and in some cases in real-time as you read it! Information is relevant to the current or nearly current release of GridTracker.` Below this is a link: `“GridTracker Quick-Start Guide” – draft`. Further down, it says: `Here is a link to your current update document for the current release.` followed by another link: `“GridTracker Update“`. The next paragraph states: `GridTracker is available in all countries that allow it. We are actively looking for translations of our documents in to your native language. Reach out to use via the “Discord” link to the right of this page. Special thanks to Santiago Mejia HI8SMX for being the first to stand-up and take the translation challenge. We salute you!` At the bottom, there is a link: `“Aquí está la traducción al Español de las Notas de esta Actualización“`. On the right side of the page, there are sections for `SEARCH` (with a search input field), `MEMBERS` (with links for `Register`, `Log in`, `News RSS`, and `Comments RSS`), `CONTACT` (with icons for a group of people, Twitter, Discord, and email), and `AFFILIATES`. The Windows taskbar is visible at the bottom of the browser window.

# What is GridTracker?

As Excerpted from GridTracker Quick Start User Guide, from GridTracker.org

The original tag-line for GridTracker was:

- **"GridTracker listens to traffic from WSJT-X and displays it on a map. It will also load ADIF log files"**
- This was in February of 2018, at its core GridTracker has remained true to that description but it has evolved to be a very powerful amateur radio tool, not just for FT8!
- GridTracker is a warehouse of amateur radio information presented in an easy to use interface, from live traffic decodes, logbooks, spot reports, weather, current solar conditions and more!

## Some of the features of GridTracker are:

- Highly advanced mapping of real-time and historical contacts on a vivid, highly customizable, interactive map. Many overlays are supported, such as Grayline, real-time award tracking, lightning strikes, Moon position and PSK-Reporter Reception Reports (Spots). Detailed State, Grid and County information is instantly accessible from the map! [Grid/county hunters rejoice!]
- Audio / Visual Customizable Alerts - Get notification
- Comprehensive callsign lookup support from popular databases.
- 'Call Roster' table view of live activity, also highly customizable to support award chasers or special events. Easily initiate QSOs with a single click.
- GridTracker integrates with many popular logging programs and web based systems, allowing you to see up to the minute progress for awards.
- Complete DXCC, Country, Callsign Prefix recognition
- 100% offline mode available for field-day, SOTA, IOTA and/or mobile use.
- Off-Air Messaging System (Message potential QSO partners over the Internet)
- Real-time Spotting Network between GT stations
- It's free!

GridTracker:

Main Map Screen, and Panel

The screenshot displays the GridTracker software interface. The main window title is "GridTracker ©2020 N0TTL v1.20.0927 Elsa III [ Band: Mixed Mode: Phone Layer: Grids -- Worked (129) Confirmed (105) ]".

The central map shows a world map with numerous red location pins indicating call activity. The map is labeled with continents (North America, South America, Africa, Asia, Australia) and oceans (Arctic Ocean, North Atlantic Ocean, North Pacific Ocean, South Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean, Southern Ocean). A scale bar at the bottom left indicates 2000 miles.

The right-hand panel contains the following information:

- GridTracker**  
14.070.000 Hz (20m) FT8  
Thu 11 Mar 2021 22:56:50 UTC  
3D2AG RH91 -15  
Fiji 7765mi 285°
- RECEIVE** (green bar)
- Bar chart showing signal strength distribution with values: 830, 180, 80, 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10, 6, 4, 2.
- Rx Calls: 0 (blue circle) QSO: 709 (blue circle)  
Rx DXCC: 0 (blue circle) QSL: 453 (blue circle)  
Buttons: Clear Live, Clear Log
- Map View Filters**  
Band: Mixed (green button)  
Mode: Phone (green button)  
Prop: Mixed (green button)  
Data: Logbook & Live (green button)
- Grid of icons for various features: ADIF, QRZ, LotW, QRZ, LotW, J02B, JN29, etc.
- Bottom of panel: GridTracker v1.20.0927 Elsa III

**Legend**

QSO	QSL
QSX	CQ
QRZ	QTH
	WSPR

# GridTracker:

## Call Roster Screen:

- LogBook Settings
- Callsigns settings
- Hunting settings

See Quick Setup Instructions for details of highlighting nomenclature in the Call sign and DXCC columns of the Call Roster.

The screenshot displays the GridTracker software interface. At the top, it shows the current frequency: 10.136,000 Hz (30m) FT8, with a timestamp of Fri 12 Mar 2021 12:59:35 UTC. The main map shows a world map with call sign locations marked by green pins. A central panel displays statistics: Rx Calls (62), QSO (709), Rx DXCC (20), and QSL (453). Below this are map view filters for Band (30m), Mode (Digital), Prop (Mixed), and Data (Logbook & Live). The bottom-left panel is the Call Roster, which includes a table of active calls and various filtering options.

Call Roster	Wanted	Filter
<input type="checkbox"/> Callsign	<input type="checkbox"/> CQz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CQ Only
<input type="checkbox"/> Grid	<input type="checkbox"/> ITUz	<input type="checkbox"/> Has Grid
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DXCC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> Min dB
<input type="checkbox"/> QRZ	<input type="checkbox"/> County	<input type="checkbox"/> Max DT
<input type="checkbox"/> WPX	<input type="checkbox"/> Cont	<input type="checkbox"/> Min freq
<input type="checkbox"/> OAMS	<input type="checkbox"/> OAMS	<input type="checkbox"/> Max freq
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uses LoTW
		<input type="checkbox"/> Not My DXCC
		<input type="checkbox"/> Only My DXCC
		<input type="checkbox"/> Uses eQSL
		<input type="checkbox"/> Only New Calls
		<input type="checkbox"/> No CQ RU
		<input type="checkbox"/> Only CQ FD

  

Call Roster Table																				
22 2021-0																				
23 2021-0																				
24 2021-0																				
25 2021-0																				
26 2021-0																				
27 2021-0																				
28 2021-0	M6CBU	JO01	CQ	England (G)	EU	NA	-17	14	27	M6	1s									
29 2021-0	W5LE	EM15	CQ	United States (K)	OK	NA	-9	04	07	W5	20s									
30 2021-0	VK6ML	OF88	CQ	Australia (VK)	OC	OC	-16	29	58	VK6	20s									
31 2021-0	VA2BAE	FN46	CQ	Canada (VE)	NA	NA	-9	05	04,08	VA2	2m 5s									
	KY4CU	EM73	CQ	United States (K)	AL	NA	-19	04,05	08	KY4	2m 19s									
	EA3GLE	JN11	CQ	Spain (EA)	EU	EU	-24	14	37	EA3	3m 49s									

## GridTracker:

Controls Interface- from top to bottom, Left to Right.

### Map View Filters:

Determine what the map displays

- Band (Individual bands or combined)
- Mode: - explore
- Propagation: I always leave on mix- but explore
- Data: Logbook only, Live Only, Logbook and Live

GUI's: Hover and explore- pretty much self explanatory:

### 1<sup>st</sup> Row:

**Open Call Roster- deeper dive.** Explore the options Logbooks, Callsigns, and Hunting Options

**Toggle Push-Pin Mode** (Pins or Grid Squares)

**Open Lookup Window-** self explanatory

**Stats** – deeper dive- *“would have saved me a lot of excel work”*

### 2nd row:

**Toggle Offline/Online-** self explanatory

**Toggle greyline:** s.e.

**Toggle Map Legend:** s.e

**Share On Air status:** s.e.

**Toggle HotKey List:** show hotkeys available

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Row:

**Cycle Award overlays:** deeper dive

**Toggle Lightning strikes, Toggle Moon, Toggle Maidenhead**

**width:** s.e.

**Settings:** deeper dive most important button when configuring

### 4th Row:

**Load ADIF Log, View Current Conditions, Donate, Audio Mute,**

**View Spot Reports:** all self explanatory

### 5th Row:

**Download log from QRZ, Download Log from LoTW** – need to config using the setting button.

**Toggle Timezone layers, Toggle US NexRAD: ???**

**Toggle Gridquares-** s.e.

### 6<sup>th</sup> ROW:

**Toggle GridTracker Users, Messaging Window** – s.e.

