

**PS VALUE GUIDE NAVIGATION SOFTWARE**

SOFTWARE	THE CAP'N V8.3	★ CHART NAVIGATOR PRO V1.1 / COASTAL EXPLORER*	💰 FUGAWI MARINE ENC V4.0	🚩 GPS NAVX/MACENC V4.1**	🚩 MAXSEA 12	NOBELTEC ADMIRAL 8.1	NOBELTEC VNS 8.1
COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS	Windows 98 SE, 2000, NT, ME, or XP (with Pentium III, not a good platform for XP). Bathymetric data requires lots of memory and a fast computer.	Windows 2000 or XP, DVD-ROM, 512KB RAM	Windows 2000, XP, or NT4	OS X 10.3.9+, 1 GHZ G4+, 512+ MB RAM	Windows 2000 w/ SP4, XP, 512+ MB RAM, 1GHz+ (faster for NavNet option), not XP Media Center edition	Windows XP, 2000, 98. Pentium 4 with 512MB RAM	Windows XP, 2000, 98; Pentium 4 with 512MB RAM
INSTALLATION	Easy but dated	A few hiccups	Confusing	Easy	Easy	Difficult and Long	Easy
LICENSED COMPUTERS	Personal use, one person, unlimited	Two copies per person, one active at a time	Two installations	Unlimited	1	3 installations, key required for instrument access	3 installations
COST	\$429 (Discontinued)	\$400/\$500	\$200	\$69/\$99	\$500-\$5,500	\$1,199; \$100 discount for competitive upgrade	\$489; \$100 discount for competitive upgrade
USER'S MANUAL	Good	Good	Print Poor, HTML version Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good
FREE DEMO DISK AVAILABLE	Older version	No/10 days	10 days	No limit; can't save waypoints during trial	No 21-day demo to be released	No	N
GPS SUPPORT (Route and Waypoint Transfer)	Garmin, Raymarine	Furuno, Garmin, Lowrance, Magellan, Northstar, Standard Horizon	Garmin, Magellan, Lowrance, Silva/Brunton, Furuno, Raymarine, Suunto X9 and X9i GPS wristwatches	Furuno, Garmin, Magellan, Raymarine	Furuno, MLR (some), Magellan, NavNet & Northstar	Garmin	Garmin
SUPPORTS AIS	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	\$250-500 extra	Yes	No
READS & WRITES GPX FORMATS	Proprietary format	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
RASTER CHART FORMATS	SoftChart CoastPak, BSB (versions 2, 3, and 4), NDI Digital Ocean, and SoftChart PhotoNavigator CDs. MarinePlanner.com. Optional British Admiralty ARCS module available	BSB 4, PCX, GeoTIFF, SoftChart (NOS & GEO)	BSB 1-4, SoftChart, mp, GIF, JPG, PNG, PCX, TIF, USGS DRG, ECW, SoftMap topo, GeoGrid, GeoTiff, TIFF+TFW	BSB, SoftChart	BSB, SoftChart, NDI,	BSB 1-4, SoftChart Passport World Charts, RasterPlus, Nobeltec Navigation Photos, NDI, SoftChart raster and photo charts, Maptech raster and photo charts (BSB version 4.0 and lower)	BSB 1-4, SoftChart Passport World Charts, RasterPlus, Nobeltec Navigation Photos, NDI, SoftChart raster and photo charts, Maptech raster and photo charts (BSB version 4.0 and lower)
VECTOR CHART FORMATS	SoftChart, Maptech, NDI	S-57/S-57, DNC	S-57, Fugawi vector maps	S-57 & S-63 (MacENC only)	Mapmedia Bathymetric, C-Map CM-93, NT+ & NT MAX, NOAA S-57	Passport (Nobeltec)	Passport (Nobeltec),
USER PHOTOS	Yes	Yes (GEOTIFF)/No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
3D VIEWING	Yes	No	Yes	No	\$500	Yes	No
RADAR OVERLAYS	No	No/Yes	No	Yes	Furuno NavNet only	Depends on radar unit	No
AUTOPILOT SUPPORT	NMEA 0183	NMEA 0183 & 2000	NMEA 0183	NMEA 0183	NMEA 0183	NMEA 0183	NMEA 0183
WEATHER GRIB	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	24-hour snapshots only	24-hour snapshots only
FREEHAND DRAWING	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
REDRAW SPEED	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good
USABILITY	Poor	Good	Fair	Excellent	Poor	Good	Good
STABILITY	Poor	Good	Fair	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
TECH SUPPORT	Good	Good	Fair	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent

🚩 Recommended   ★ Best Choice   💰 Budget Buy

\*Coastal Explorer was not tested.   \*\*MacENC ratings based on limited testing of raster-only version, GPSNavX.