



Google It

December 2006
Volume 2, No. 12

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Google Maps - *Continued*

Not Too Basic

Anyone Want Pizza?

I would not be surprised to find out that looking for a place to order pizza is one of the most common Internet research activities in connection with meals. So, I will use “pizza” as an example.

Don’t bother with “pizza parlor”, “pizzeria” or “pizza pie.” Just use the word “pizza.”

Assuming you are already in Google Maps, here are some methods that have worked for me: pizza **in** Chicago, pizza **near** Chicago, pizza **loc:** Chicago (loc: is the location operator). Or, click on “Find businesses” and in the first box enter “pizza.” In the next box enter the desired location, e.g., Chicago and click “Search Businesses” on the Right.

If you entered the above, you will have more information in the Left information pane than you care to read. **See the story in the box on the right.** To collapse the Left information pane, click on the blue arrow between the map and the textual information. Click the blue arrow again to expand the information pane.

Note that some of the pizza establishments have “review” information for your gourmet enlightenment.

*To all my friends of all faiths,
Season’s Greetings.*

“Click to Call” and “Call for Free”

Google is testing “Click to Call.” When you click the “call” link next to a business’s phone number, you’ll be invited to enter **your** phone number. Once you select “Connect For Free,” Google Maps calls the number you provided. When you pick up, you will hear ringing on the other end as Maps connects you to the business. When they answer, you simply talk normally as if you had directly dialed their number on your phone. Cell phones still get charged for time, of course.

Also, Microsoft’s “Call for Free” works well.

Go to www.live.com and you will be in for a treat. Click on Maps, enter the search terms then use the two boxes at the top and Zowie!

(See page 2.)

Help!

Google Maps has pretty good Help support.

You can click on Help in the upper Right hand corner which will take you to the Help Center.

If you can’t find an answer, the Help Center has a link to the Google Maps Help Group; this group is independent of Google.

Next month— more on www.live.com - Maps.

If you have any tips or suggestions feel free to send them to me at: nteumlp@gmail.com

Microsoft Live Search
www.live.com

1. Click on Maps, enter the search term and click on the search icon.
2. Click on Businesses, enter the search term and location.
3. Click on “Call for free” and enter the desired telephone number. (Microsoft and Google say this really is free.) Answer your telephone when it rings, a voice will notify you that you are being connected and then you are in business.

Of course, if you use a cell phone number you will still get charged for minutes, depending on your cell phone contract. Sometimes, you can save the telephone number to your cell phone address book.

Caution: This system is still under development. The “Call for free” feature has the potential for great mischief. I will not list the possibilities. We will have to see if “Call for free” has staying power or if it needs more work. The same applies to Google.

