

Layer Types

There are two primary types of layers that you will normally use: **raster** and **vector**. A raster layer is a layer that contains georeferenced images. Georeferenced means that it has been assigned a specific location on the surface of the earth (by some computer program). A vector data on the other hand contains several selectable features that had to be created, or drawn, in the correct place. **Vector data** is comprised of x-y coordinate representations of locations on the earth that take the form of single points, strings of points (lines or arcs), or closed lines (polygons).

Vector Layers

Lines, Points, Polygons

- SHP Files (Arcview)
- CDF Files (Geographix)
- DXF Files (AutoCAD)
- EFF Files (Everest)

Raster Layers

Geo-referenced Images

- Mr. Sid
- ECW
- GeoTiff
- JPG
- PNG
- GlobeExplorer
- TerraServer
- Virtual Earth
- Etc...

