

# Postcode List Specification

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## Overview

This spread sheet contains a list of all current Postcodes for the relevant Postcode Area. There are 124 Postcode Areas across the UK from AB (Aberdeen) to ZE (Lerwick) and therefore 124 separate Excel spread sheets containing Postcodes.

## Table Structure

The following fields are contained within the spread sheet.

| Field    | Description                   |
|----------|-------------------------------|
| Postcode | Full UK Postcode (eg UB7 0EB) |

## Full Postcode

The Full Postcode is the Postcode as most people would generally know and love it as written on envelopes for mailing purposes. (e.g. UB7 0EB). There are approximately 1.7 million Full Postcodes covering the UK.

Formerly a Postcode could contain between 1 and over 300 addresses. This is now restricted to a maximum of 100 although the average number of addresses per Postcode is 15.

A Postcode could cover addresses on up to 12 Thoroughfares. This is now generally restricted to 1 although some historic Postcodes may contain more.

## Valid Postcodes

Postcodes are continually retired and introduced by Royal Mail as new residential or commercial developments are built requiring Postcode recoding of the impacted area.

For the purpose of this spread sheet, only Postcodes which are currently in use are included in the list. If a Postcode is not found in this list then it either never existed or has been retired by Royal Mail. For a list of Postcodes which have been retired in the area please see our "Postcode List With Locations" product.

## Recency & Updates

We update all our Postcode products every 3 months and you will be notified when the updated Postcode List spread sheet is available for download free of charge.

It should be noted that, as updates are 3 months apart, Postcodes may be retired or introduced in this period and therefore not reflected until the next updated list becomes available.