Map Design

Map Grid Label Placement and Orientation

The Labels tabbed panel on the Map Grid Layer Controls window provides a high degree of control on the placement and orientation of map grid labels. The panel has separate toggles for turning labels on and off for the grid lines and for the map corners. If you use both grid and corner labels, any grid line labels that would overlap a corner label are automatically hidden.

In addition, a Custom graphic provides individual buttons for turning labels on/off on each side of the grid and separate buttons for each of the two label positions at each corner of the grid (see illustration to the right). You can thus customize grid labeling to match particular publishing standards and to accommodate use of multiple map grids in different coordinate reference systems. For example, you might choose to place labels on the left side and top of one map grid and along the right side and bottom of a second grid.

Menus next to the label placement toggles allow you to choose orientation options separately for the grid and corner labels. A representative selection of the label orientation options are illustrated here for grid labels. Labels may be oriented upright (all horizontal), vertical, parallel to the grid sides, or perpendicular to the grid sides. The latter three categories involve some or all of the labels being oriented vertically, and for each of these the vertical labels can be drawn to read upward or downward, or to have the labels on the left and right sides of the grid oriented with their tops inward or outward. All of these options are available for both grid and corner labels. Grid labels also can be placed along their tick marks so they are partially inside and partially outside the neatline.

The Grid and Corners toggles on the Labels tabbed panel provide first-order control on placement of map grid labels, allowing you to turn all grid and corner labels on or off. Use the menus next to these toggles to choose label orientation options.

The small buttons on the Custom graphic allow you to turn map grid labels on/off separately for each side of the grid and for each corner of the grid.

The illustrations in the inset above show the configuration of the Custom controls with all grid labels on (left) and with all corner labels on (right).