



Physical Map of Canada

This map shows the physical features of Canada. Mountains are indicated by shading. Bodies of water are colored blue, a traditional depiction. To assist in location, latitude and longitude lines are drawn as well. One significant latitude line, the Arctic Circle at 66.5 degrees North, is colored purple. An overview of the map shows that the physical landscape of Canada is dominated by mountains, the Canadian Shield, and significant bodies of water. The tall Rocky Mountains dominate the western third of the country. The Canadian Shield covers about one-half of the country. Its generally flat and rocky surface and harsh climate does not easily support farming or road transportation. Few Canadians have chosen to live within it, and movement across it from eastern to western Canada has been limited. Eastern Canada contains relatively low mountains, including the northern edge of the Appalachian highlands. By looking at the map, one can see why Canada has the largest shoreline of any country on earth. Canada's borders include the Atlantic, Pacific, and Arctic Oceans and Canada is composed of many islands. The map also shows that interior bodies of water are important. Lakes include the Great Bear Lake (the largest in Canada and fourth largest in North America) and the Great Slave Lake (the second largest in Canada and the deepest in North America). The Great Lakes on the southern border of the map, which hold about one-quarter of all the freshwater in the world, are shared with the United States.

Using the map and your knowledge of Geography, answer the following questions:

WorldView Software: World Geography

MAP: Question 1

What does this map show?

Question 2

Name two lakes in Canada. What are their major features?

Question 3

How much of Canada lies above the Arctic Circle? What is the main physical feature of this part of Canada?

Question 4

How does Canada's location and topography affect its climate?