





Model of the shape/size of the Earth



Consists of an ellipsoid, defined by its size and shape



Fit to the earth (original location)



Many are created for use only in specific areas of the earth

► i.e., ellipsoid is fitted to only a portion of the earth and the center of the Earth is shifted in each

▶ Ellipsoid is referred to a point on the Earth surface

▶ World Geodetic System (WGS84) is referenced to the center of Earth and designed for use globally

DATUM

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DATUM TYPES

- ▶ NAD 27
 - ▶ Clarke 1866 ellipsoid
 - ▶ Best fit to North America

