

BPH ENHANCED POSTCODE DATA - FILE STRUCTURES & NOTES



UK Street/Postcode "Flat File" Format Tables (with County Names)

Royal Mail PAF® version 18/12

Table	Name	Records	Approx File Size
1. Postcode Master	PCST1812.CSV	1,762,704	175 mb

POSTCODE MASTER TABLE	
Unit Postcode	8
Thoroughfare Name 1	35)
Thoroughfare Name 2	35)
Locality Name 1	35) Mixed case text
Locality Name 2	35)
Post Town	25 Upper case text
Former Postal County Name	30)
Admin County Name	30) From Royal Mail "Alias" File
Traditional County Name	30)
Postcode Type	1 L = Large User, S = Small User, s = Small User Duplicate entry
Delivery Point Count	3 No. of Addresses (Delivery Points)
Total	267

There are an average of approximately 15 individual addresses ("Delivery Points") for each Small User postcode.

An "s" type indicates that the unit postcode covers more than one Thoroughfare and therefore multiple records for the same postcode will be present. Please ensure your search/look-up facilities display all applicable records for these entries!

Notes

Postal county names were removed from the main PAF database in December 2000 and are no longer required for mail delivery.

Why do many postcodes show no Thoroughfare or Locality names?

Some Large user postcodes and ALL PO Box codes do not require Thoroughfare or Locality names for mail delivery purposes.

Why don't London postcodes show district names such as "Wimbledon" or "Soho"?

To optimise mail distribution efficiency PAF splits London into 8 distinct postal areas - N/NW/SW/SE/E/EC/W/WC and so district names are not required and are not present on PAF for the London area.