## ObscurelQ<sup>™</sup> Privacy Guides Blur or Remove Images from Maps



### Google Apple Bing Here OpenStreetMap Yandex MapQuest

## Google Maps: How to Blur Your Home

Step 1: Locate Your House on Google Maps:

- Open Google Maps.
- Enter your address in the search bar.

Step 2: Enter Street View:

- Drag the yellow "Pegman" icon (found in the lower-right corner) to your house on the map to enter *Street View* mode.
- Adjust the view to see your house clearly in the image.

Step 3: Report a Problem:

- Click the three dots (:) in the top-left corner of the Street View image.
- Select "Report a problem" from the dropdown.

Step 4: Blur Your House:

- You'll be taken to a page where you can report what you'd like to blur.
- Select "My home" as the object to blur and ensure the red box is positioned over your house.
- Scroll down to the "Why are you reporting this image?" section and select the appropriate reason.
- Fill in your email address and complete the CAPTCHA.

Step 5: Submit:

• Click Submit. Google will review the request and blur your house if the request is accepted. This process can take a few days to weeks.

#### Note: Once an image is blurred on Google Maps, it cannot be unblurred.

## Apple Maps: How to Remove or Blur Your Home

Step 1: Open Apple Maps:

- Open the Apple Maps app on your iPhone, iPad, or Mac.
- Enter your home address in the search bar to locate your house.

Step 2: Enter Look Around (Apple's version of Street View):

- If *Look Around* is available for your area, you'll see a binoculars icon in the top-right corner.
- Click the icon to enter the Look Around view and find your house.

Step 3: Report a Problem:

- On a Mac, select the info button (i) in the lower-right corner of the Look Around window.
- On an iPhone or iPad, swipe up from the bottom of the screen and select "Report an Issue".

Step 4: Request Removal or Blurring:

- In the Report a Problem form, describe that you want the image of your house blurred or removed for privacy reasons.
- Ensure to provide your contact information, such as your email or phone number.

Step 5: Submit:

• Apple will review the request and may take action depending on the situation. Follow up with them if necessary.

## Bing Maps: How to Blur or Remove Your Home

#### Step 1: Locate Your House:

- Go to <u>Bing Maps</u> and enter your home address.
- Switch to the StreetSide view (similar to Street View).

#### Step 2: Report a Problem:

• Once your house is visible in *StreetSide*, click the **three-dot menu** on the bottom right and select "**Report a Privacy Concern**" or "**Report an Issue**".

#### Step 3: Fill Out the Form:

- In the form, specify that you would like your house blurred or removed for privacy reasons.
- Provide any additional necessary details, including your contact information, and submit the form.

#### Step 4: Wait for Processing:

• Microsoft will review your request and take appropriate action.

## HERE WeGo Maps: How to Blur or Remove Your Home

#### Step 1: Locate Your House:

• Go to <u>HERE WeGo</u> and search for your home address.

#### Contact HERE Support:

- HERE doesn't have a specific online form like Google or Bing, so you'll need to email their support team.
- Contact <u>privacy@here.com</u> or use the "Feedback" option in the app/website to request the removal or blurring of your house from their imagery.

#### Provide Necessary Information:

- Include the address, image, and specific area of your house you want blurred.
- They may follow up to verify your request before proceeding.

# Note: HERE Technologies is a Location Data broker. They make money by selling not just your house on a map but also your aggregate movement data.

*If you have issues removing images of your house or want to remove more of your location data from the hands of brokers, contact ObscurelQ for a consultation.* 

## **OpenStreetMap: How to Blur or Remove Your Home**

**OpenStreetMap** is an open-source mapping service where individuals contribute to the map. While it doesn't have street-level imagery like Google or Apple, it is often used by other map services that may. If any personal or identifiable information is listed, you can request its removal by editing the map yourself or contacting the community moderators for assistance via OpenStreetMap Help.

## Yandex (Russia): How to Blur or Remove Your Home

#### Step 1: Locate Your House:

• Go to Yandex Maps and search for your home.

#### Step 2: Report a Problem:

• Like Google, Yandex offers a **Street View** feature. If your house is visible, you can request it to be blurred by contacting Yandex directly.

#### **Contact Yandex Support:**

• Use their **feedback form** on the website or contact support via Yandex Maps Support to request blurring/removal for privacy.

## MapQuest: How to Blur or Remove Your Home

#### Step 1: Locate Your House:

• Go to <u>MapQuest</u> and search for your home address.

#### Step 2: Report an Issue:

- MapQuest uses data from other mapping services (such as **OpenStreetMap**), so you may need to address privacy concerns through the platforms that supply their imagery.
- Contact MapQuest support via their feedback form if your house appears and you need further assistance.