Instructions for using Online Base Maps in ArcGIS

These instructions outline steps for using ArcGIS base maps with your data. Using base maps requires a high-speed internet connection.

1. Run ArcMap and create a new map.

2. Click the small black arrow beside the Add Data button and select Add Basemap...

3. From the variety of options, choose a base map that suits your needs and click Add. Bing Maps Road is a very good general base map for most purposes.

If ArcMap crashes while trying to work with an online basemap, try turning off Hardware Acceleration.

1. Customize > ArcMap Options
2. Go to Data View tab.
3. Uncheck “Enable Hardware Acceleration for supported layers”.