

Sea Lines



Hammer's equal-area projection (1892) is a globe slit from pole to pole then stretched flat. Here the poles have been tilted variously to keep the slit from cutting land.

Hammer's equal-area projection does what the name says: It shows the true area of every region at the expense of shape. It customarily presents the world cut along the Date Line and stretched into a 2:1 ellipse. Here the cut is a canted 180° great-circle arc placed so it never touches land. The arrangement of the arc determines how the continents cluster. In the 1st medallion the cut runs from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific, separating Antarctica and South America; in the 2nd it runs from the Indian Ocean to the Pacific, separating Australia and Antarctica; in the in the 3rd it splits the Atlantic Ocean.