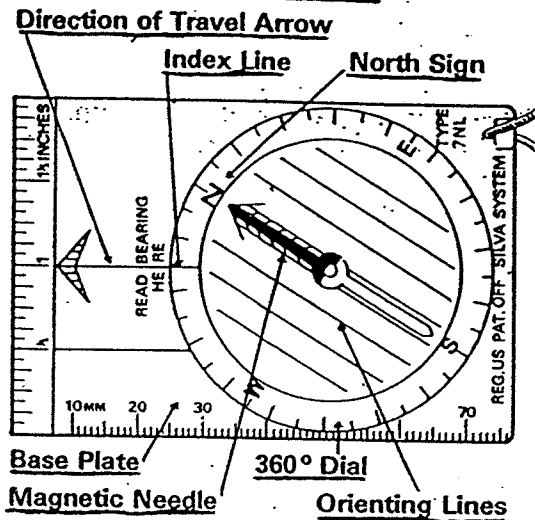


Adventures with Map and Compass

How to Begin

Can you find your way in the woods? To explore the world of nature you must get close to it. Whether you choose to hike in the woods or search out new areas for fish and game, you must be able to use a compass. And in order to learn how to use a compass properly, you must become familiar with its basic features.

The Parts of the Compass



Once you have completed Steps 1 and 2 above proceed as follows:

3. a.) Place the compass flat in your hand (see sketch). The direction-of-travel arrow should point in the same direction you are facing.
- b.) Turn your whole body until the red end (north end) of the magnetic needle points to the "North Sign" on the compass dial.
- c.) Look up to see where your direction-of-travel arrow is taking you, then pin point an object far away as the terrain will allow, i.e. a particular tree, a large stone, etc. (see sketch).
- d.) Walk (run) towards your chosen object; then repeat the same procedure.

The Map...is the very basis for Orienteering. Therefore it is of the utmost importance that you learn to understand it from the very beginning.

The Compass...is your help in staying on course, orienting the map north-south, and in measuring distances.

Finding Your Way

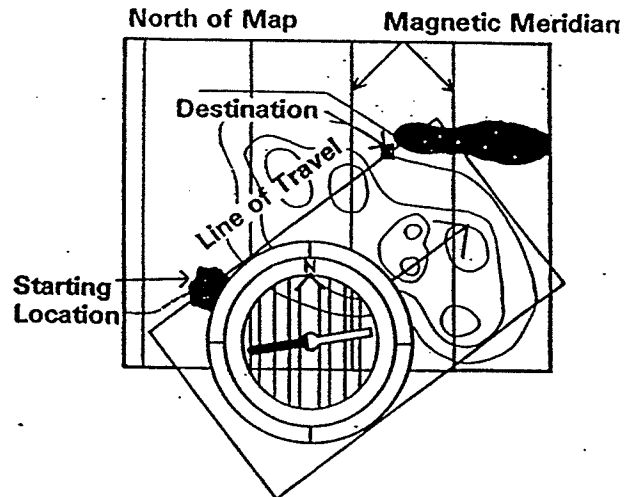
A compass should be considered a trusted friend. It is a necessary tool to use to check your direction of travel and to help you orient your map to north-south.

A map and compass are used together as a team to get you through unfamiliar terrain. This activity is commonly known as "Orienteering". Orienteering skills provide the means to navigate your way with map and compass along an unknown stretch of ground to your preselected destination.

Following is a basic outline of the steps involved in learning to use the compass. Treated as an exercise, it is a good introduction to map and compass techniques. Since learning map and compass skills is a basic requirement for Orienteering, as you become skillful your enthusiasm for Orienteering will grow.

To travel from the starting location at the building to the destination at the lake:

1. Connect the building and the lake with the base plate of your compass as shown in the sketch. The direction-of-travel arrow must point to your goal, i.e. the lake!
2. Turn the compass dial, so that the orienting lines run parallel to the magnetic meridians on the map. The "North Sign" on the compass dial must be to the north of the map.



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