

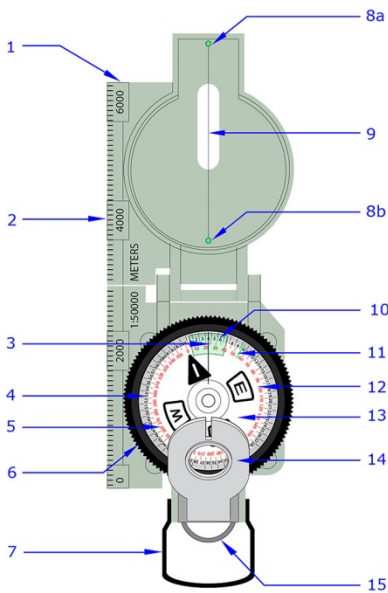


CB-202066

Scout Compass User Guide

The following user guide is intended only as a basic introduction to military-style lensatic compass navigation techniques. If you are new to compass navigation, we highly encourage you to pursue more in-depth training.

Scan the QR code below to access a full copy of the 2013 U.S. Army Training Circular (TC) 3-25.26 which contains much more comprehensive training guidance on map reading and land navigation. 126 pages



- 1 - Solid Cast Aluminum Body
- 2 - Map Scale (1:50000)
- 3 - Fixed Index Line
- 4 - MIL Graduations - Black (20mil)
- 5 - Degree Graduations - Red (5°)
- 6 - Rotating Azimuth Ring
- 7 - Thumb Loop
- 8 - Luminous Bearing Marks (x2)
- 9 - Sighting Line (Wire)
- 10 - Luminous Back-Light Panel
- 11 - Luminous Bearing Line
- 12 - Magnetic Arrow Floating Dial
- 13 - Liquid Dampened Capsule
- 14 - Magnified Sight Lens
- 15 - Lanyard Loop
- 16 - 425 Paracord Lanyard (Not Shown)
- 17 - Nylon Pouch (Not Shown)

Compass Basics:

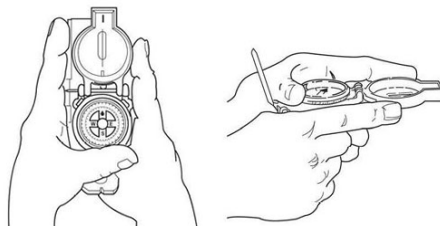
It is important to know how to use a compass if you plan on venturing into the backcountry. First, a quick explanation on what a compass is. A map compass has a magnetized needle housed in a sealed vial that aligns with magnetic North. Around this vial is an azimuth ring that indicates 0-360 degrees. The dial, orienting arrow, and sighting line are used to help you find East, West, South, and the points in between. Just knowing where north is isn't enough though; proper training and knowledge are required to allow you to use this directional information to navigate successfully. The Scout compass is a lensatic-style which is commonly used in the military and is an excellent tool for map navigation. There are two basic ways of holding a lensatic compass which are known as "center-hold" and "compass-to-cheek" which are detailed below.

Center-Hold Technique:

First, open the compass to its fullest so that the cover forms a straightedge with the base. Move the lens (rear sight) to the rearmost position. Next, place your thumb through the thumb loop, form a steady base with your third and fourth fingers, and extend your index finger along the side of the compass. Place the thumb of the other hand between the lens (rear sight) and the bezel ring; extend the index finger along the remaining side of the compass, and the remaining fingers around the fingers of the other hand. Pull your elbows firmly into your sides; this places the compass between your chin and your belt.

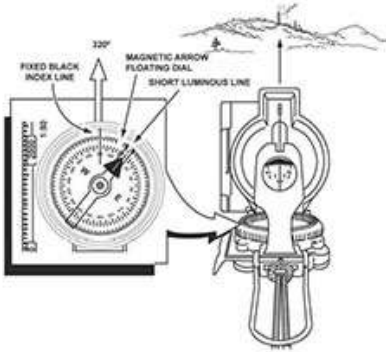
Compass-to-Cheek Technique:

First, open the compass cover just enough to allow the lens (rear sight) to flip up to its rearmost position. Next, place your thumb through the thumb loop, form a steady base with your third and fourth fingers, and extend your index finger along the side of the compass. Place the thumb of the other hand between the lens (rear sight) and the bezel ring; extend the index finger along the remaining side of the compass, and the remaining fingers around the fingers of the other hand. Tuck your elbows/arms close to your body and hold the compass up against your cheek so that your dominant eye can see through the sight lens.



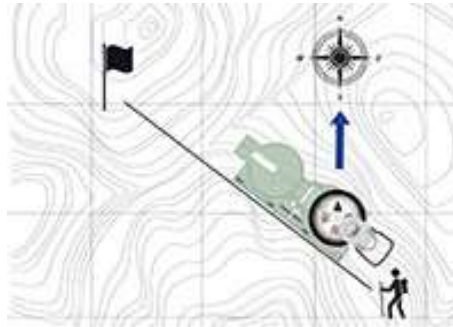
Presetting the bearing of a target in the distance:

Either hold technique can be used for this however the compass-to-cheek technique is the most accurate. While in the cheek-hold, look through the rear-sight slot and align the front-sight hairline with the desired object in the distance. While still in the cheek-hold, look down at the dial through the eye lens, and with your thumb and middle finger turn the bezel so that the luminous line aligns with the north needle. The compass is now preset for your target bearing.



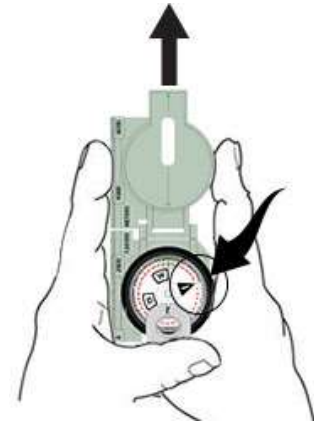
Presetting a bearing using a map

First, place the map on a flat surface such as a wood table or the ground (nothing that contains metal) and use your compass to orient your map North with magnetic (compass) North. Open the compass to its fullest extent so that the cover forms a straightedge with the base. Align the straight edge on the side of the compass with an imaginary line between your current location and your desired destination on the map. Holding in this position, turn the bezel to align the luminous line with the north-seeking arrow. Once the alignment is obtained, the compass is preset for your map target bearing.



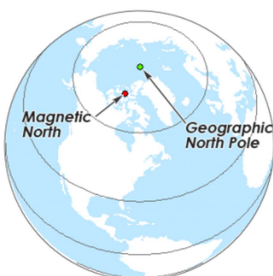
Following a preset azimuth

Once you have a preset on your compass (i.e. 273°) you are ready to navigate. Assume the center-hold technique, and turn your body until the north-seeking arrow is aligned with the luminous line. Proceed forward in the direction of the front cover's sighting wire, which is aligned with the fixed black index line. Continue to travel forward while periodically checking to maintain the orientation of the luminous line with the north seeking arrow.



Magnetic North vs true North:

If you were standing on the geographic north pole holding your compass, it would point towards northern Canada at Ellesmere Island. This is a difference of about 500 kilometers between the Geographic North and Magnetic North poles! This difference is called the magnetic inclination or declination. The degree of declination varies by geographic location, and most good maps will notate the declination for the covered area. Accurate navigation requires that declination be accounted for.



Glossary and terms:

Azimuth: An azimuth is the direction measured in degrees clockwise from north on an azimuth circle. An azimuth circle consists of 360 degrees. Ninety degrees corresponds to east, 180 degrees is south, 270 degrees is west, and 360 degrees and 0 degrees mark north.

Bearing: A bearing describes an angle or difference from a point. On the compass, you use the north and south for the reference. An azimuth of 135 degrees is the same as the bearing 45 degrees East of South (S 45 E)