# Preparatory Map Skills

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| Learning Objectives | Map familiarisation and Conventional Signs |
| OS Grid System |
| North and Magnetic Variation |
| Contours |
| Scales and Distances |
| Setting the Map |

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| Prior Knowledge | This should be Revision – for the few for which it is not it might be necessary to set up a separate class’ |
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| Success Criteria | Understand the OS Grid System and be able to give a 6-figure Grid Ref |
| Understand North and how to apply the Magnetic Variation |
| Be able to interpret Contours |
| Understand Scales and be able measure Distance |
| Be able to set a map |

## Resources

* Sufficient maps – print-outs from MemoryMap and at least 2 full OS maps;
* Sufficient compasses;
* Hand-outs
* PowerPoint Presentation – ([Preparatory Map Skills](Preparatory%20Map%20Skills.pptx)).

## Introduction

Good evening – my name is Your Name and I am a D of E Supervisor / Assessor (edit) for all levels of D of E expeditions from Bronze/ Silver/ Gold. Etc etc etc.

## Aim

My aim this evening is to provide you with the basic knowledge regarding Ordinance Survey Maps that you will need in order for you to understand the information that the map contains.

## Method

I will cover the following subjects -

* Map familiarisation and Conventional Signs ;
* OS Grid System;
* North and Magnetic Variation;
* Contours;
* Scales and Distances;
* Setting the Map.

## Lesson

### OS Maps - Familiarisation

Every OS Map will have the following information:

* Scale – 1:25,000 or 1:50,000
* Name
* Number – Series, Sheet, Edition
* Date of Printing – this is important to work out the Magnetic Variation;
* Identifying Letters – i.e. NN
* Magnetic Variation – Top/Centre and Bottom/Right: gives the calculations that must be made to work out the Magnetic Variation;
* Scales – Metric, Imperial and Nautical
* Conventional Signs.

### Grid North, Magnetic North and True North

There are three Norths commonly in use in Great Britain:

* Grid North: the direction of a grid line which is parallel to the central meridian on the National Grid.
* True North: the direction of a meridian of longitude which converges on the North Pole.
* Magnetic North: the direction indicated by a magnetic compass. Magnetic North moves slowly with a variable rate and currently is west of Grid North in Great Britain. = somewhere in Northern Canada!

### Magnetic Variation

GRID to MAG – ADD

MAG to GRID – GET RID

### Four-Figure Grid Square

### Six-Figure Grid Square

### Contours

### Scale

### Measuring Distance

### Setting a Map

REMEMBER – other than when setting a map, the Compass **NEEDLE** can be completely disregarded when using the map!

## Revision

<< Ask questions to confirm that the subject has been understood>>

## Close

If there is anything that you do not understand or on which you would like further information please feel free to speak to either Gavin or myself at any time.

## Next Lesson

<<Cover what will be in the next lesson>>