

DofE expedition kit tips:

HOW TO USE A COMPASS

Direction of travel arrow

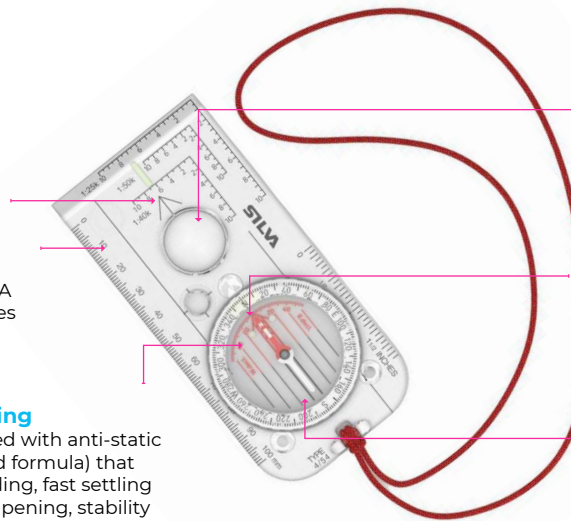
This arrow will point towards your travel destination after you've set the course.

Baseline

The scales and other information on SILVA compasses are hot-stamped, which makes them exceptionally durable.

Compass housing

The capsule is filled with anti-static liquid (customised formula) that ensures clear reading, fast settling time, perfect dampening, stability and accuracy of the needle.



Magnifying lens

Many SILVA compasses come with a magnifying lens built into the baseplate. This will make it easier for you to read the map and its small typography, and for precision map work.

Compass needle

SILVA has developed the world's fastest and most accurate magnetic compass needle. The red end of the needle points to north, and has a luminous tip to help with night navigation.

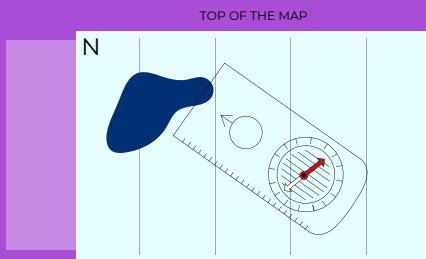
North/South lines

Patented red/black north/south lines in the capsule bottom ensure easy and safe settling. Align with the meridians on the map. Make sure that the map points north.

Silva Expedition 4 Compass

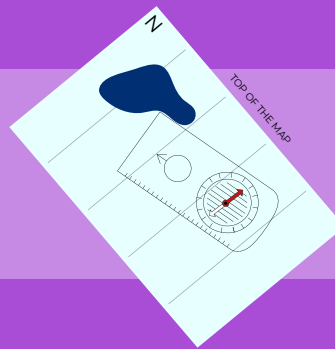
Easy as 123: How to orientate your map

Navigation all comes down to solid basics. SILVA's 123 to Navigation sets a foundation for more advanced skills. Practising using a map and compass on your local walks is a great idea. Go out in the dark to imitate low-visibility conditions that might catch you out on your expedition, so you're prepared and practised in a safe environment.



Step 1

Place your compass on the map. It doesn't matter how you place it, it is the compass needle that is important to orientating your map.



Step 2

Rotate the map so that the red (north) end of the compass needle points to the top of the map and is aligned with the north gridlines.



Step 3

Take a look around. Your map should be orientated to your surroundings.

NOTE: Keep in mind that magnetic variation may occur in the area that you are using your compass and this needs to be compensated for.

NOTE: If using a mirror-sighting compass: angle the mirror/lid approximately 45 degrees towards yourself and hold with straight arm out in front of you. Now, while looking in the mirror to see that the needle aligns with the red/black N/S arrow, sight above the mirror (using the sight) towards an object in the field in line with the direction of travel.

More advice on how to use a compass and map, as well as the official DofE Expedition Kit List, can be found at DofE.org/shopping

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