

There are four cardinal points on a compass - North, South, East, and West.

The first thing you need to do is learn the parts of your compass. On your barefoot compass, find the following parts:

Baseplate: This is the clear base of your compass. It is clear so you can use it on a map.

Ruler: To use on your map's scale.

Magnetic Needle: This is the green and white needle at the center of your compass.

Degree Dial: This is the numbered dial ring on your compass.

Travel Needle: The travel needle is outside the dial, printed on your base plate and pointing towards the front of your compass. You use this when using bearings. It also tells you that direction to point the compass.

Magnetic Arrow: This is the green section of your magnetic needle.

Orienteering Arrow: This arrow is inside the dial ring on the bottom of your compass base. This is used to orienteer the bezel.

Bezel: The outer ring of your compass dial with 350° markings.

A compass displays cardinal directions in a 360° format. North is 0°, East is 90°, South is 180°, and West is 270°.

How to Use a Compass

1. Place the compass flat on your palm and with your palm directly in front of your chest.
2. Look at the *magnetic needle*. It should swing off to one side or another, unless you're facing North.
3. Turn the *degree dial* until the orienting arrow lines up with the *magnetic arrow*, pointing them both North. Then find the general direction you're facing by looking at the direction of *travel arrow*. If the direction of the travel arrow is between South and West, you are facing SW.
4. Find where the direction of *travel arrow* intersects with the degree dial. If it intersects at 28, you're facing 28 degrees Southwest.

