

## Black Rock Forest Consortium

### Compass Basics

- A compass is composed of the following elements:

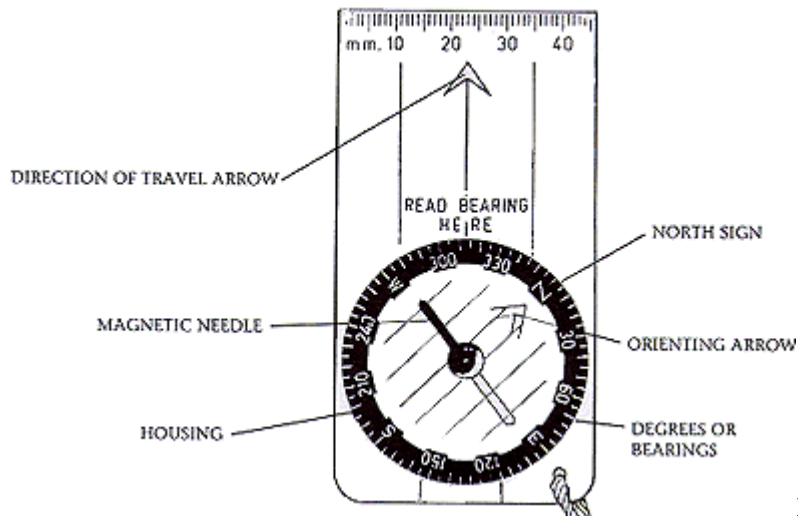


Image obtained from [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov)

- The Magnetic Needle ALWAYS points NORTH (unless it is influenced by a metal object).
- Bearings range from 0° (due North) to 359°.

### Using a Compass

1. Hold the compass flat in the palm of your hand.
2. Spin the housing (where the numbers are).
3. Notice what parts of the compass move and what stays the same as the housing moves.
4. Place the "N" in line with the "Direction of Travel Arrow".
5. Turn YOUR BODY to put "Red Fred" (the red half of the magnetic needle) in the "Shed" (the orienting arrow).
6. You are now facing north!
7. Now turn the housing until your desired bearing number is in line with the "Direction of Travel Arrow".
8. Turn YOUR BODY to put "Red Fred in the Shed".
9. You are now facing in the direction of your desired bearing.