

Summary Report for Individual Task  
551-88K-2708  
Interpret Magnetic Compass Onboard a Class B Vessel  
Status: Approved

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**Distribution Restriction:** Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

**Destruction Notice:** None

**Foreign Disclosure: FD5** - This product/publication has been reviewed by the product developers in coordination with the Fort Lee foreign disclosure authority. This product is releasable to students from all requesting foreign countries without restrictions.

**Condition:** Assigned as a crewmember onboard a Class B vessel, given an Operation Order/Operations Plan (OPORD/OPLAN), a complete risk assessment, magnetic compass, Dutton's Navigation and Piloting, Pub No. 9, and TC 4-15.51, day or night, in all weather conditions, in an operational environment scenario. Some iterations of this task should be performed in MOPP 4.

**Standard:** Determine cardinal directions using the vessel's magnetic compass without injury to personnel or damage to equipment IAW references.

**Special Condition:** As the vessel gets underway, using a chart with an existing or new DR plot, the Soldier must take an accurate compass reading and use the data on the chart to determine the vessel's heading.

**Safety Risk:** Low

**MOPP 4:** Sometimes

**Task Statements**

**Cue:** Given an OPORD/OPLAN to interpret a magnetic compass onboard a Class B vessel.

**DANGER**

None

**WARNING**

None

**CAUTION**

None

**Remarks:** None

**Notes:** None

### Performance Steps

1. Determine the nautical directions: N, NE, E SE, S, SW, W, and NW.
2. Determine degrees 0-360.
3. Determine nautical directions using the magnetic compass.
4. Plot the interpretations of the magnetic compass in conjunction with a mercator chart to determine the course of the vessel.

Note: The evaluator will create a scenario that requires the Soldier to use the magnetic compass in conjunction with a chart. (Example: The vessel is underway. The Soldier checks the magnetic compass, uses the compass reading to determine the vessel's heading on the chart using a parallel ruler, or the Soldier checks the DR on the chart and checks the compass to ensure the heading is correct).

(Asterisks indicates a leader performance step.)

**Evaluation Guidance:** Score the Soldier GO if all performance steps are passed (P). Score the Soldier NO-GO if any performance step is failed (F). If the Soldier fails any step, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

**Evaluation Preparation:** Ensure that all information, references and equipment required to perform the task are available. Use the TC and the evaluation guide to score the Soldier's performance. Brief the Soldier. Tell the Soldier what is required IAW the task condition and standard.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	GO	NO-GO	N/A
1. Determined the nautical directions: N, NE, E SE, S, SW, W, and NW.			
2. Determined degrees 0-360.			
3. Determined nautical directions using the magnetic compass.			
4. Plotted the interpretations of the magnetic compass in conjunction with a mercator chart and determined the course of the vessel.			

### Supporting Reference(s):

Step Number	Reference ID	Reference Name	Required	Primary
	DUTTON	DUTTON'S NAVIGATION AND PILOTING 14th EDITION	No	No
	PUB. NO. 9	The American Practical Navigator - Bowditch	No	No
	TC 4-15.51	Marine Crewman's Handbook	Yes	No

**Environment:** Environmental protection is not just the law but the right thing to do. It is a continual process and starts with deliberate planning. Always be alert to ways to protect our environment during training and missions. In doing so, you will contribute to the sustainment of our training resources while protecting people and the environment from harmful effects. Refer to FM 3-34.5 Environmental Considerations and GTA 05-08-002 ENVIRONMENTAL-RELATED RISK ASSESSMENT.

AR 200-1 delineates TRADOC responsibilities to integrate environmental requirements across DOTMLPF and ensures all training procedures, training manuals, and training doctrine includes sound environmental practices and considerations. The Army's environmental vision is to be a national leader in environmental and natural resource stewardship for present and future generations as an integral part of all Army missions. Environmental protection is never completed. Continuously be alert to ways to protect our environment and reduce waste.

Leaders must ensure that their unit has an active and strong environmental program. They must understand the laws and know what actions to take. Leaders bring focus, direction, and commitment to environmental protection. Commanding officers should ensure the following environmental programs are in place and are being maintained:

- Hazardous materials program.
- Hazardous waste program.
- Hazardous communications program.
- Pollution prevention and hazardous waste minimization recycling program.
- Spill prevention and response plan program.

**Safety:** In a training environment, leaders must perform a risk assessment in accordance with ATP 5-19, Risk Management. Leaders will complete the current Deliberate Risk Assessment Worksheet in accordance with the TRADOC Safety Officer during the planning and completion of each task and sub-task by assessing mission, enemy, terrain and weather, troops and support available-time available and civil considerations, (METT-TC). Note: During MOPP training, leaders must ensure personnel are monitored for potential heat injury. Local policies and procedures must be followed during times of increased heat category in order to avoid heat related injury. Consider the MOPP work/rest cycles and water replacement guidelines IAW FM 3-11.4, Multiservice Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures for Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical (NBC) Protection, FM 3-11.5, Multiservice Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Decontamination.

All operations will be performed to protect and preserve Army personnel and property against accidental loss. Procedures will provide for public safety incidental to Army operations and activities and safe and healthful workplaces, procedures, and equipment. Observe all safety and/or environment precautions regarding electricity, cable, and lines. Provide ventilation for exhaust fumes during equipment operation and use hearing protection when required IAW AR 385-10, the Clean Air Act (CAA) and the CAA amendments, and the OSHA Hazard Communication standard.

Accidents are an unacceptable impediment to Army missions, readiness, morale, and resources. Decision makers at every level will employ risk management approaches to effectively preclude unacceptable risk to the safety of personnel and property affiliated with this task.

- (a) Take personal responsibility.
- (b) Practice safe operations.
- (c) Recognize unsafe acts and conditions.
- (d) Take action to prevent accidents.
- (e) Report unsafe acts and conditions.
- (f) Work as a team.

**Prerequisite Individual Tasks :**

Task Number	Title	Proponent	Status
551-88K-1707	Determine Nautical Direction Using the Vessel's Magnetic Compass	551 - Transportation (Individual)	Approved

**Supporting Individual Tasks :** None

**Supported Individual Tasks :**

Task Number	Title	Proponent	Status
551-88K-2711	Perform Dead Reckoning(DR) Techniques Onboard a Vessel	551 - Transportation (Individual)	Obsolete
551-88K-3510	Monitor Rescue Operations Onboard a Vessel	551 - Transportation (Individual)	Approved
551-88K-2713	Supervise Plotting Techniques to Determine a Vessel Position	551 - Transportation (Individual)	Obsolete
551-88K-2712	Perform Vessel Movements Using Aids to Navigation (ATONS)	551 - Transportation (Individual)	Obsolete

**Supported Collective Tasks :**

Task Number	Title	Proponent	Status
55-2-1508	Conduct Vessel Operations	55 - Transportation (Collective)	Approved

**ICTL Data :**

ICTL Title	Personnel Type	MOS Data
MOS 88K Watercraft Operator SL3	Enlisted	MOS: 88K, Skill Level: SL3, Duty Pos: TAV
MOS 88K Watercraft Operator SL 4	Enlisted	MOS: 88K, Skill Level: SL4, Duty Pos: TFJ
MOS 88K Watercraft Operator-SL2	Enlisted	MOS: 88K, Skill Level: SL2, Duty Pos: TCF