

Introduction, Types and Care of Maps

Usually you would use road signs etc. To find your way, but what if you are in the middle of nowhere and the only things you have to rely on are a Map and a Compass. As a Cadet part of your training is to learn how to use and trust a Map as well as the use of a Compass in order to find your way.

Types of Maps

There are many different types of maps that are important for different uses. A simple street plan to find your way round the local area, Ordnance Survey maps at different scales for longer distance travel and military maps showing training areas, etc

Reliability

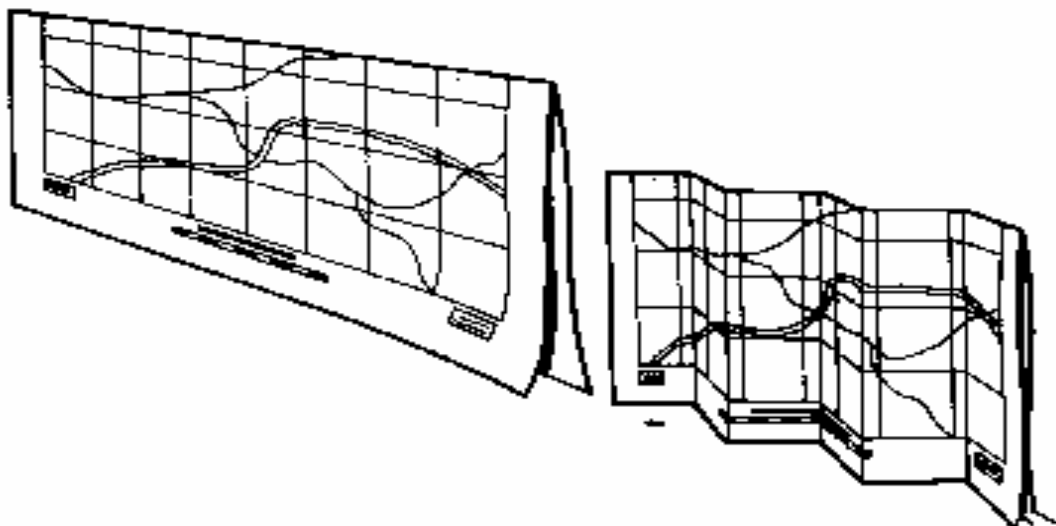
A Map is a bird's eye view of an area or piece of land drawn to scale, correct only at the time of drawn.

This means that a map is a picture of an area, as a bird would see it from high above to ground. Every day things are changing around us, *imagine*: ordnance survey visit an area in order to create a the map and they are stood in the middle of a Forrest, two months later the Forrest could have been chopped down and a new Tescos could be built by the time the map is printed, and the map will show a forest. For Practical reasons a map can be relied on.

Care of Maps

Maps must be treated with care, otherwise they become torn, dirty and creased and so they become unreadable. Constant folding of maps is the easiest way of wearing them out. The correct way of folding is:

First the map is folded in half lengthways with the map outwards, and then it is folded like a concertina. This method reduces the map into a more conventional size for carrying and ensures that there is a large area for study when any two folds are opened. (See below)



a map should be protected by either being kept folded in a plastic bag when not in use or in a transparent map case, if it has to be marked this should only be done lightly with a pencil and all markings gently erased when finished. It is easier to put the map inside a case and mark the case with a chinograph pencil.