

The Invention Of The Compass

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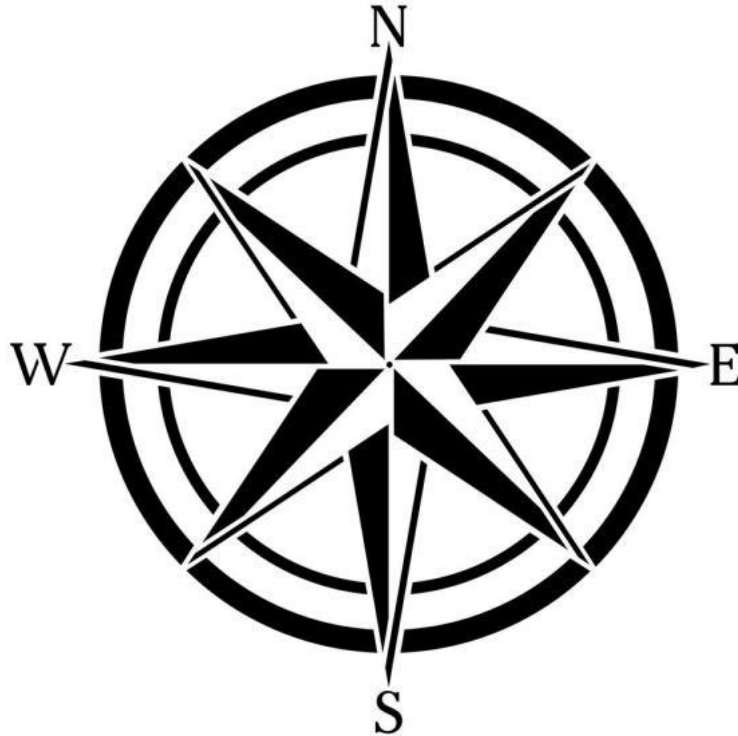
1. What does the compass do?

A **compass** is a device that indicates direction. It **is** one of the most important instruments for navigation. This **compass** for example was used by Robert Peary to reach the North Pole, allegedly the first person to **do** so.



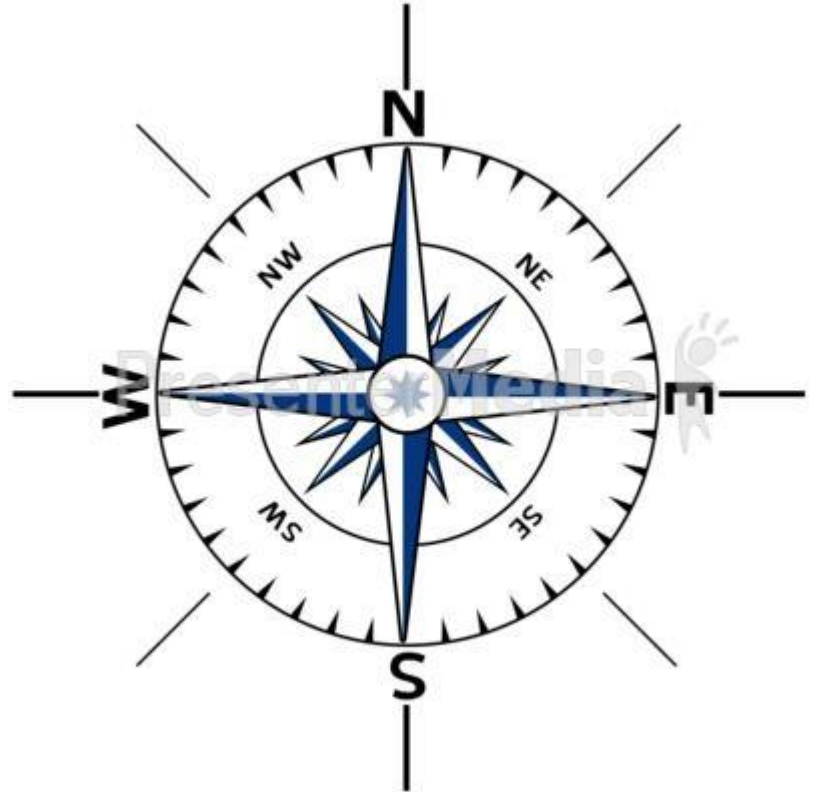
2. What problem did the compass solve?

The magnetic **compass** **was** an important advance in navigation because it allowed mariners to determine their direction even if clouds obscured their usual astronomical cues such as the North Star.



3. When was the compass invented?

Chinese scientists may have developed navigational compasses as early as the **11th** or **12th century**. Western Europeans soon followed at the end of the **12th century**. In their earliest use, compasses were likely used as backups for when the sun, stars, or other landmarks could not be seen.



4. Who invented the compass?

Historians think China may have been the first civilization to develop a magnetic **compass** that could be used for navigation. Chinese scientists may have developed navigational **compasses** as early as the 11th or 12th century.



What other inventions came due to the compass ?

Modern navigators came due to the compass. And navigation in its turn had its great impact in different areas such as astronomy, mathematics, cartography, etc.



6. Why is the compass important?

It is one of the most **important** instruments for navigation. It was an advance in navigation, in determination of location. With compass it was always possible to know how to go back. The **compass** has shaped the world as we see it now.

