

**ORIENT A MAP TO THE GROUND USING TERRAIN ASSOCIATION**

**CONDITIONS**

Given a objective topographical map in the daylight

**OBJECTIVES**

Orient the map to North to within 30 degrees within 4 minutes.

**TRAINING AND EVALUATION**

**Training Outline**

1. In order to use your map for navigation, you must “orient” the map to the ground. A map is considered oriented when it is in a horizontal position with it's north and south corresponding to north and south on the ground. This allows you to easily see the terrain on the map as it corresponds to the terrain around you. Orienting the map can be quickly done without a compass if there are prominent terrain features nearby.

2. To orient the map:

a. Look at the map and the ground to find two or more terrain features common to both. Examples are hills, saddles, valleys, ridges or cultural features such as buildings or radio towers.

b. Rotates the map until the terrain features are aligned with the map. (For example, if there is a tower to your right and the mountain in front of you, rotate the map until the tower on the map is on the right and the mountain on the map is towards the top). By aligning the terrain features on the map with the same terrain features on the ground, the map is oriented.

c. Whenever possible, use three features, to ensure you do not accidentally orient the map 180 degrees out.

**Additional Information**

More detailed information on this topic is available in Chapter 5 of the Ground Team Member and Leader Reference Text.

## Evaluation Preparation

**Setup:** Choose an outdoor location with good visibility and readily identifiable terrain features. Provide a map of the area that lists those terrain features to the student.

**Brief Student:** Tell the student orient the map to the ground. Tell him to describe out loud all the steps he takes.

## Evaluation

<u>Performance measures</u>	<u>Results</u>	
1. Identifies three prominent terrain features	P	F
2. Orients the map to north to within 30 degrees	P	F
3. Completes all steps within 4 minutes	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.