

## Mapping Your Bearings

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Although with enough experience, a FoxHut can be conducted without a map and compass, most newbies and Hams will find it essential to plot their bearings on a county map.

For this purpose, you should pick up a Boy Scout quality compass with 360 bearings marked around the outside ring. A simple No. 2 pencil and straight edge ruler will work with most paper maps.

I have heard of hunters using a wax pencil or dry erase marker on glossy maps or on a clear lucite cover over a map.

In essence, after finding the strongest null from the hidden transmitter, the compass is used to read what direction or bearing the transmitter is observed. (Remember to add 10 degrees or whatever value deviation is printed in the legend of your map. This is because magnetic north and compass north vary at different points over the globe.)

You'll need to know exactly where you are on your map, and once marked, draw a line at the bearing (plus 10) that you observed. The transmitter is likely someplace along this line.

Moving 5 to 10 minutes laterally, take a second bearing to the transmitter, and plot that on the map as well. Where the two lines intersect should be the transmitter location.

NOTE: The accuracy of this triangulation is affected by how exact your readings are... factoring in the deviation... accounting for reflection of signals... elevation of readings, and other factors. You may want to take multiple readings to confirm your triangulation.

Be careful to confirm you are reading the direction to the transmitter each reading, and NOT the rear null that would be 180 degrees in the wrong direction. A couple of readings should convince you where the lines should intersect.

TIP: Look for a feature, park, public land, or landmark near where your lines cross. You can bet that the Fox will be in a public location and easily spotted from a public roadway.