

Compasses – a brief survey with comments (many others available)

Base Plate Compasses

Very Good for Orienteering – All most people need.







Image	Description and Comments
<p>Generic Base Plate Compass</p> 	<p>Very inexpensive ones available at Wal-Mart for about \$5.00. Serviceable, but may be difficult to read and use. (Better to spend a little more.)</p>
	<p><u>Brunton Classic 9020G Compass</u> REI Price: \$10.00</p> <p>Lacks meridian lines which makes compass alignment on map slightly more difficult.</p>
	<p><u>Suunto A-10 Compass</u> REI Price: \$12.95</p> <p>This and the following are probably among the best of the inexpensive basic base-plate compasses.</p>
	<p><u>Silva Polaris Base Plate Compass</u> REI Price: \$13.00 Scout Store Catalog Price: \$12.50 (with Scout logo)</p>

Image	Description and Comments
	<p><u>Suunto M-2D Locator Compass</u> REI Price: \$20.00</p>
	<p><u>Suunto M-3D Leader Compass</u> REI Price: \$29.95</p> <p>This is a classic, but probably more than most Scouts need.</p>
	<p><u>Brunton 8096-AR Compass</u> REI Price: \$38.95</p> <p>Has grid for UTM coordinate system</p> <p>Lacks meridian lines which makes compass alignment on map slightly more difficult.</p>

Mirrored Compasses

Added sighting precision









Image	Description and Comments
 A blue Silva Guide Graphite 426 compass with a white dial and a large mirror on top.	<p><u>Silva Guide Graphite 426 Compass</u> REI Price: \$20.00 Scout Store Catalog: \$18.50 (listed as Silva Ranger Floating Compass)</p>
 A black Brunton 26DNL-CL compass with a red dial and a large mirror on top.	<p><u>Brunton 26DNL-CL Compass</u> REI Price: \$24.95</p>
 A black Suunto MCB Amphibian compass with a white dial and a large mirror on top, attached to a red lanyard.	<p><u>Suunto MCB Amphibian Compass</u> REI Price: \$24.95</p>
 A black Suunto MB-6 Matchbox compass with a white dial and a large mirror on top, attached to a black lanyard.	<p><u>Suunto MB-6 Matchbox Compass</u> REI Price: \$39.95</p>





Image	Description and Comments
	<p><u>Brunton 15TDCL Compass</u> REI Price: \$55.00</p>
	<p><u>Silva Ranger CL Compass</u> 2003 Backpacker Magazine Award Winner! REI Price: \$55.00</p> <p>Often considered the 'gold standard'.</p>
	<p><u>Brunton 8099 Eclipse Compass</u> REI Price: \$70.00</p> <p>Much more than most will need.</p> <p>Lacks meridian lines which makes compass alignment on map slightly more difficult.</p>
	<p><u>Suunto MC-2G Navigator Compass</u> REI Price: \$70.00</p> <p>For all you globe-trotters. Said to be useable worldwide without need for adjustment.</p>

Specialized Orienteering Compasses

If you get into the sport

Image	Description and Comments
 A Silva SPECTRA orienteering compass. It features a clear plastic baseplate with a white dial and a colorful (red, yellow, blue) bezel. A black magnetic needle is visible through a window. A green plastic cover is attached to the top. A ruler is visible on the right side of the baseplate.	<p>Silva SPECTRA Brunton Price: \$105.00 A&E Orienteering Price: \$79.95</p>
 A Suunto Arrow A5 orienteering compass. It has a clear plastic baseplate with a white dial and a red bezel. A black magnetic needle is visible through a window. A black plastic cover is attached to the top. A ruler is visible on the right side of the baseplate.	<p>Suunto Arrow A5 A&E Orienteering Price: \$45.95</p>
 Two Moscow 11R or 11L Competition Thumbcompasses. They are purple plastic thumbcompasses with a white dial and a red bezel. A black magnetic needle is visible through a window. The compasses are labeled 'L' and 'R'.	<p>Moscow 11R or 11L Competition Thumbcompass A&E Orienteering Price: \$38.95</p>

Other Compasses Generally not suitable for Orienteering

Image	Description and Comments
	<p><u>Brunton 9076 Lensatic Compass</u> REI Price: \$14.95</p> <p>Not suitable for orienteering.</p> <p>Cheap version available at Wal-Mart for about \$3.00.</p>
	<p><u>Brunton Cadet Training Compass</u> Brunton Price: \$60.00</p>
	<p><u>Brunton Conventional Pocket Transit</u> Brunton Price: \$279.00</p> <p><u>Basic</u> geologists and engineers compass.</p>
	<p><u>Brunton GEO Pocket Transit</u> Brunton Price: \$439.00</p> <p>The Ferrari, but not for orienteering</p>