

Converting between Magnetic and True North bearings

When a compass does not have a declination set:

Map to compass – West, Add (true to magnetic)

Bearing measured on map: 45 degrees (true)

Declination 15 degrees West

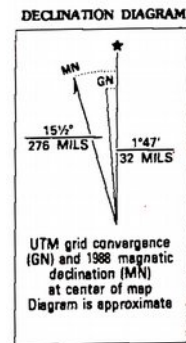
Map to compass: $45 + 15 = 60$ degrees (magnetic)

Compass to map – West, Subtract (magnetic to true)

Bearing measured with Compass: 45 degrees (magnetic)

Declination 15 degrees West

Compass to map: $45 - 15 = 30$ degrees (true)



Map to compass – East, Subtract (true to magnetic)

Bearing measured on map: 45 degrees (true)

Declination 15 degrees East

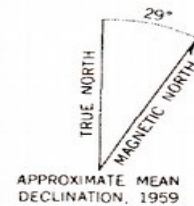
Map to compass: $45 - 15 = 30$ degrees (magnetic)

Compass to map – East, Add (magnetic to true)

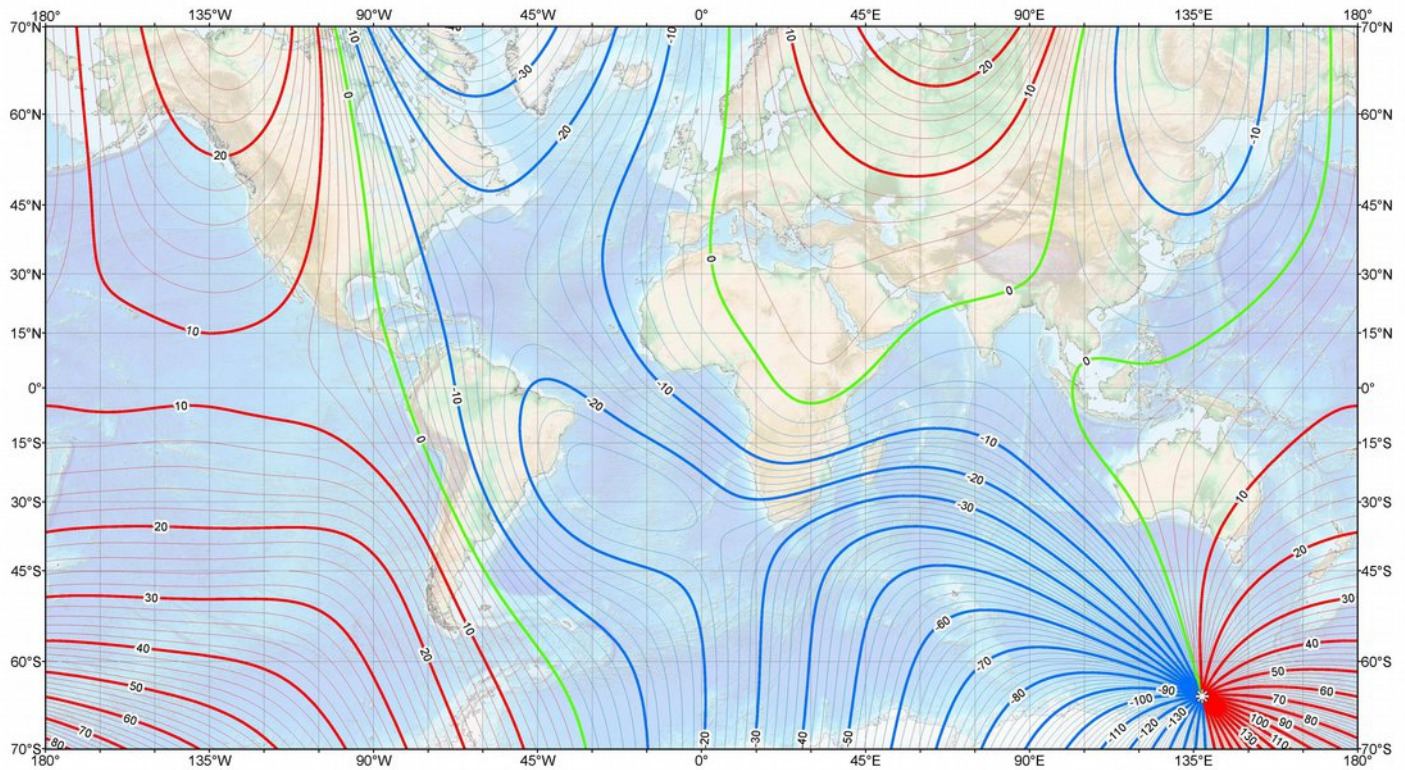
Bearing measured with Compass: 45 degrees (magnetic)

Declination 15 degrees East

Compass to map: $45 + 15 = 60$ degrees (true)



US/UK World Magnetic Model -- Epoch 2010.0 Main Field Declination (D)



Main field declination (D)
Contour interval: 2 degrees, red contours positive (east); blue negative (west); green (agonic) zero line.
Mercator Projection.
☉ : Position of dip poles

Map developed by NOAA/NGDC & CIRES
<http://ngdc.noaa.gov/geomag/WMM/>
Map reviewed by NGA/BGS
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