



TIP OF THE WEEK

TIP 001

Lost at night? Navigate by Finding North Using the North Star!

PROBLEM: No compass, lost in the woods and unsure which way to go?

SOLUTION: Use the North Star (Polaris) to find true north at night.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ Clear night sky
- ✓ Your eyes and your hand

STEPS:

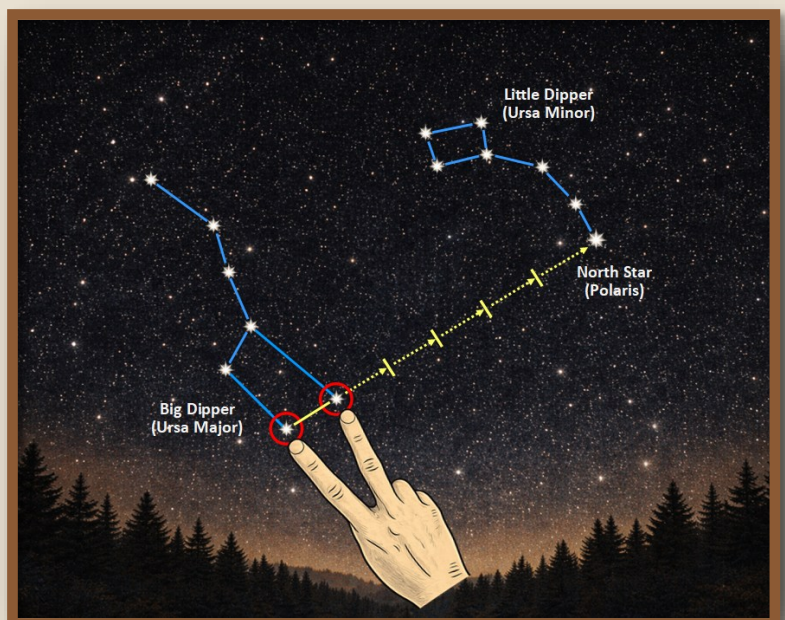
1. Find the **Big Dipper** (looks like a ladle).
2. Find the two stars at the edge of the bowl (pointer stars circled in red).
3. Draw an imaginary line through these two stars.
4. Fully extend your arm out in front of you and put your two fingers on each of the pointer stars.
5. At the same angle and finger spacing, count up 5X.
6. The bright star at the end is Polaris (the North Star).

TERTIARY TAKEAWAY:

- ✓ Compass = Primary, GPS / Maps = Secondary.
- ✓ Knowing how to navigate by the stars is tertiary and isn't dependent on technology when all else fails.



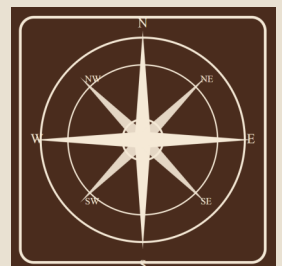
This takes less than 60 seconds and requires no special tools



Polaris sits above Earth's axis and remains nearly fixed as the sky rotates.

FIELD NOTES:

- ✓ The Big Dipper rotates but ALWAYS points to Polaris.
- ✓ Polaris isn't the brightest star– it's just the most reliable.
- ✓ Once facing North:
 - West = Left
 - Right = East
 - Behind = South



ISAIAH 48: 17

Source: www.earthsky.org

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