



**BLUE**

# MAP READING 1

*Explorer Level*

## Purpose

By the end of this badge you will be able to identify and understand marginal information and some of the most commonly used symbols and scales usually found on a map.

## Exploring

A map is usually printed on paper, but before this can happen a lot of work has to take place. Map making is started by using aerial photography. A plane flies over the area to be mapped in a series of straight lines taking photographs. These photos are then checked by people actually going to the area to check physically if all the items shown on the photograph are still there or if there are new buildings, roads, etc. to be added.

This information is then placed on paper and symbols are used to show various things.

For example A highway may be given this symbol: 



a church:  and so on.

This map is then re-checked against the original photos, artwork is done, printing plates are made for each colour and maps are then printed.

You may find that your map is not completely accurate in every detail. This is due to the amount of work and time involved in making a map (it is often out-of-date by the time you buy it).

Answer the following questions.

1. Why do we need maps?

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2. There are different sizes and scales used in making maps. Why?

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## Doing

1. Obtain the following maps.

- A road map of your area or State.
- A topographical map of an area which your Counsellor will advise.

2. Show your Counsellor that you can identify and explain the purpose of the following marginal information.

- Name of map .....
- Sheet and edition number .....

- Scale .....
- Conventional signs .....
- Date map was made .....

3. Show your Counsellor that you know the conventional signs for the following.

- Principal Road .....
- Minor road, track .....
- Bridge .....
- Railway .....
- Power Lines .....
- Building .....
- Church .....
- Trig Station .....
- Spot Elevation .....
- River, stream .....

4. Discuss with your Counsellor how you may use this information.

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5. Read the purpose at the beginning of this badge and check with your Counsellor if you have achieved this aim.

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Ask your Counsellor to sign below and arrange for the presentation of your badge.

..... date .....

**References**

The patrol goes to camp. The Scouts Association of Australia (available at Scout shops).  
 Australian Road Atlas, published by George Phillip & O’Neil, Lands Department in your State.  
 Help available to Counsellors:  
 Policemen, State Emergency Services, Defence Personnel (current and past), local  
 Army Cadet unit.