

Hints for Judging Distances.

Judging distances is a branch of a soldier's work which can be readily acquired, but which requires practice.

Never make a wild guess at a distance, have some such method as is given in the following:—

At 50 yards a person's mouth and eyes can be clearly seen.

At 100 yards a person's eyes appear like dots.

At 200 yards all parts of the body, badges, etc., can be seen.

At 300 yards the face is indistinct.

At 400 yards the movements of the legs can be made out.

At 500 yards the head and hat can be seen and colours distinguished.

At 600 yards the head is like a dot.

At 700 yards it is difficult to distinguish the head.

Points to be observed.

The distance is usually over-estimated when—

Looking over broken ground.

In a dull light.

Object is in the shade.

Heat haze is rising from the ground.

Both background and object are the same colour.

Kneeling or lying down.

The distance is usually under-estimated when:—

The air is clear and the sun is shining brightly on the object.

Looking across level ground, snow, or water,

Colour of object is different from the background.

Looking uphill or down.

Points of the Compass.

The following points, not shewn in the diagram, come between each of the points there shewn:—

From N. to E.:—N. by E., N.E. by N., N.E. by E., E. by N.

From E. to S.:—E. by S., S.E. by E., S.E. by S., S. by E.

From S. to W.:—S. by W., S.W. by S., S.W. by W., W. by S.

From W. to N.:—W. by N., N.W. by W., N.W. by N., N. by W.

The use of the "Points of the Compass" is very inconvenient on land, and readings in degrees are preferable. 32 points correspond with 360 degrees, each point being worth $11\frac{1}{4}$ degrees.

