

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT BEARINGS

MAJOR COMPONENTS OF A BEARING

- The first part of a bearing will begin with either North (N) or South (S)
- Next is the angle written in degrees ($^{\circ}$), minutes ($'$) and seconds ($''$) turned from either North (N) or South (S)
- The last part of a bearing will end with either East (E) or West (W)

CARDINAL DIRECTIONS

- Due North can be written as N $00^{\circ}00'00''$ E or N $00^{\circ}00'00''$ W
- Due South can be written as S $00^{\circ}00'00''$ E or S $00^{\circ}00'00''$ W
- Due East can be written as N $90^{\circ}00'00''$ E or S $90^{\circ}00'00''$ E
- Due West can be written as N $90^{\circ}00'00''$ W or S $90^{\circ}00'00''$ W

RULE OF THUMB FOR BEARINGS

- The closer the line is to due north or due south, the closer the degrees will be to $00^{\circ}00'00''$. The closer the line is to due east or due west, the closer the degrees are to $90^{\circ}00'00''$.
- The number of degrees ($^{\circ}$) recited in a bearing cannot be greater than 90° , the number of minutes ($'$) or seconds ($''$) cannot be greater than 59 (i.e. there is no such bearing at N $95^{\circ}21'63''$ E)

