

## Map reading for armed forces and security

Map reading is an essential skill for the armed forces. You will need to know how to find a point on a map using a grid reference and how to provide a reference for a location.

### Eastings and northings

In military map reading, the horizontal axis readings are called **eastings**. The vertical axis readings are called **northings**.



### 4 figure grid reference

The **grid reference** is a four figure number that shows a position on the map as a combination of eastings and northings. The grid reference always shows the eastings first. A grid reference refers to a whole square. The blue square in the example has a grid reference of 4767.

