

Required Material

- Two metal rods which can be made from wire coat hangers, electrical wire, welding rods, etc.
- Survey flags suggested

- Construction of rods from coat hangers
  - Cut hooks off metal coat hanger, straighten each hanger trying to get all the bends out
  - Once the hangers are straight make a 90 degree bend for handles (handles should be 4 to 5 inches in length)

- > Construction of rods from electrical wire
  - Cut a piece of 12 guage or heavier guage wire to length of 20 to 24 inches
  - Strip the insulation from the cut length
  - Straighten two wires
  - Once the wire are straight make a 90 degree bend for handles (handles should be 4 to 5 inches in length)

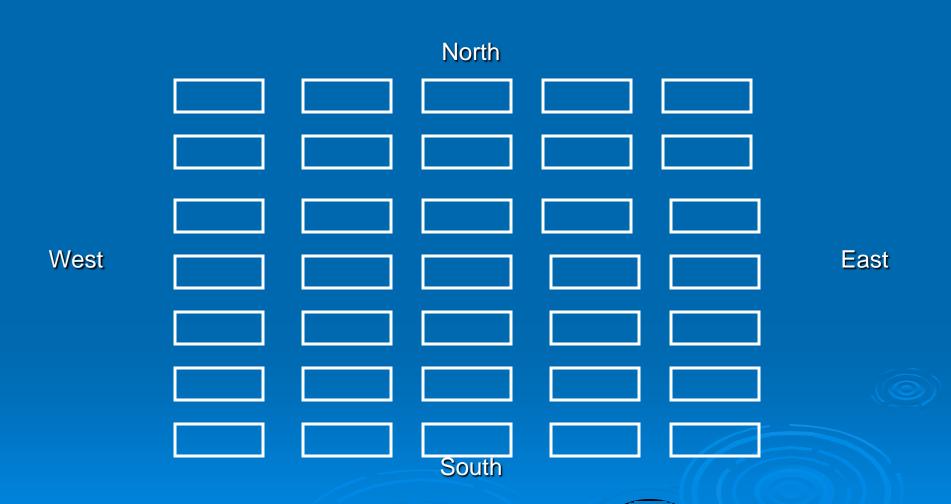
- Construction of rods from welding rods (1/4 diameter or less recommended)
- Cut rods to length of 20 to 24 inches
- Remove burrs from cut ends of each rod
- Make a 90 degree bend for handles (handles should be 4 to 5 inches in length)
  - I suggest the handle length be 20% of the total rod length. If rod is 24 inches, then bend 5 inches for the handle. If rod is 20 inches then bend 4 inches for the handle

- Basic Technique
  - Lightly hold a rod in each hand with elbows at your waist and forearms parallel to the ground
  - The rods should be straight out, parallel to each other, and parallel to the ground
  - DO NOT place thumbs over the bend of the handles (this restricts movement)

- Basic Technique
  - Walking slowly, approach the suspected grave
  - If a body is present, the rods will cross when you are over the grave. They will uncross when you step away from the grave

Please go to a cemetery or graveyard with marked graves and practice to get a good feel for what works best for you!

- Cemetery Layout
  - Most cemeteries or graveyards in the US bury the deceased in a Christian manner. The bodies are laid with the head pointing west and the feet pointing east. This is because with the second coming of Christ, he will be coming from the east
  - Usually 2 to 3 feet separate graves



- > Determine Gender
  - Standing over the center of the grave, balance the handle of one rod on your index finger, holding the rod straight down
    - The rod will rotate clockwise for a male

The rod will rotate counter clockwise for a female

- Determining which is head/foot of the grave
  - Standing over the center of the grave, hold one rod over your head
    - For a male the rod will swing around and point to feet

 For a female the rod will swing around and point to the head

- Determining approximate age
  - Holding a rod in each hand, begin at the foot/head of the grave and walk the length
  - Rods will cross at the foot/head and remained crossed until the other end is reached....
  - Count the number of steps taken from the point the rods crossed to the point they uncrossed

- Depending upon your stride
  - 1 to 2 steps usually indicates an infant
  - 2 to 3 steps usually indicates a toddler
  - 3 to 4 steps usually indicates a child
  - 5 steps usually indicates an adolescent or short adult
  - 6 steps usually indicates an adult
  - 7 steps usually indicates a tall adult