

CONTROL DESCRIPTIONS FOR ORIENTEERING

Control description sheet format

Event Example							
M45, M50, W21							
5	7.6 km	210 m					
----- 80 m -----> △							
△		/	/	Y			
1	212	↘	200%			☉	
○----- 120 m ----->○							
2	178	↑	▲	1.0/2.0	○		
○----- 400 m ----->○							

- Event title
- Classes (optional line)
- Course code, course length in km to nearest 0.1 km, climb in metres to nearest 5m.
- Distance to the start triangle from the point of the timed start.
- Start location (first line of descriptions)
- Descriptions of individual controls
- Special instructions (e.g. follow taped route to control)
- Nature of route from last control to the Finish

Conforms to IOF specifications (2018) with Australian usage

For more information refer to the publications section of the IOF website (<http://www.orienteering.org/>)

Descriptions of individual controls (guide to columns)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
2	225	↘	☉	☼	8 x 4	<	☺

- A Control number
- B Control code
- C Which of any similar feature
- D Control feature
- E Appearance
- F Dimensions/combinations
- G Location of the control flag
- H Other information

Column C Which of any similar feature

↑	Northern ¹
↘	South eastern ¹
—●—	Upper
—●—	Lower
	Middle

Landforms

⌋	Terrace
⌋	Spur
∩	Gully
⌒	Earth bank
⊖	Quarry
++	Earth wall
∧	Erosion gully
▨	Ditch, man-made
○	Hill, large knoll
●	High point, mound
)	Saddle
⊖	Depression
⊖	Small depression
∇	Pit
∩	Broken ground
*	Termite mound, ant hill

Column D The control feature

Rock and boulders	Vegetation	Man made features (cont.)
⌌ Cliff, rock face	◇ Open land	■ Building
▲ Rock pillar	◊ Semi-open land	▨ Paved area
⌋ Cave	◁ Forest corner	□ Ruin
▲ Boulder	☉ Clearing	↗ Pipeline
▲ Boulder field	▨ Thicket	⊥ Tower
▲ Boulder cluster	↗ Linear thicket	⌌ Shooting platform
▨ Rocky/stony ground	⋯ Vegetation boundary	⊙ Boundary stone, cairn
⋆ Bare rock	⌌ Copse	↑ Fodder rack ⁴
Narrow passage	▲ Distinctive tree	⊖ Charcoal ⁴ burning ground
	⊗ Tree stump, root stock	▲ Monument or stone
		⌌ Building pass through
		⌌ Stairway
		⊗ Special items
		⌌ Trench
		☆ Out of Bounds Area

Water and marsh

⊖ Lake
⊖ Pond
∩ Waterhole
⋯ River, watercourse
⋯ Minor water course
⋯ Narrow marsh
Marsh
Firm ground in marsh
⊖ Well
⋯ Spring
⊖ Water tank, water trough

Column E Appearance

⌒	Low ²
⌒	Shallow ²
∩	Deep ²
▨	Overgrown ²
⊖	Open ²
▲	Rocky, stony ²
≡	Marshy ²
⋯	Sandy ²
⌌	Needle leaved ⁴
⌌	Broad leaved ⁴
⌌	Ruined

Note: Special items must be defined for competitors in pre-event information

Column H Other information

☺	Refreshment point
+	First aid post
☺	Control check

Column F Dimensions/combinations

8 x 4	Size (horizontal dimensions)	2.0	Heights of two features with control between
2.5	Height or depth	3.0	
0.5/3.0	Height of feature on slope		

∩	Junction
<	Bend
⊗	Crossing

If either the crossing or junction symbols are used in Column F, the two features that cross or meet must be shown in D and E. e.g.

∩	∩	∩	Road/track junction
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Nature of route from the last control to the Finish

○----- 400 m ----->○	400m from last control to Finish. Follow taped route.
○ >----- 150 m ----->○	150m from last control to Finish. Navigate to finish funnel, then follow tapes
○ <----- 380 m ----->○	380m from last control to Finish. Navigate to finish. No tapes.

¹ 8 points of compass possible
² Use if appearance not indicated on map
³ Can be used in combination
⁴ Not commonly used in Australia
⁵ Heights over 3 m usually to nearest metre