

The 3 and 6 Minute Rules

The 3 and 6 minute rules are used to quickly solve for distance in Nautical Navigation. The principles are then applied to other navigation principles including Rapid Radar Plotting and other tools. Basically these rules are used to quickly determining distance traveled in 3 and 6 minutes.

The premise with these rules is that a Nautical Mile (NM) = 2000 yards (yds) Additionally, 1 knot (kt) = 1 NM / hr = 2000 yds/hr (this is the equivalent to MPH)

3 Minute Rule:

Speed (kts) * 100 = Distance (yds) traveled in 3 minutes

Example: if traveling 20 knots, the distance you've traveled in 3 minutes is as follows:

20kts * 100 = 2000yds
for 15 knots, 15kts * 100 = 1500yds

MOVE THE DECIMAL TO THE RIGHT TWO PLACES – ANSWER IS IN YARDS

6 Minute Rule:

Speed (kts) / 10 = Distance (NM) traveled in 6 minutes

Example: if traveling 20 knots, the distance you've traveled in 6 minutes is as follows:

20kts / 10 = 2NM
for 15 knots: 15kts / 10 = 1.5NM

MOVE THE DECIMAL TO THE LEFT ONE PLACE – ANSWER IS IN MILES

Read more: http://wiki.answers.com/Q/The_3_and_6_minute_rule#ixzz1OYT4x2Eq