

BACKSTAFF

Meaning: Backstaff: a navigational instrument used in the past to measure the angle of the sun above the horizon for determining latitude at sea.

1. The backstaff was an essential tool for navigators during the age of exploration.
2. In the museum, we saw a beautifully restored backstaff from the 18th century.
3. Sailors relied on the backstaff to measure the angle of the sun above the horizon.
4. The invention of the backstaff improved the accuracy of sea navigation significantly.
5. He demonstrated how to use the backstaff to determine latitude at sea.
6. Backstaves were a precursor to more advanced navigational instruments like the sextant.
7. Many historical accounts describe the difficulties sailors faced before the backstaff was invented.
8. The backstaff's design allows for a more straightforward reading of celestial bodies.
9. Even with the backstaff, navigating through storms remained a perilous task.
10. Understanding how to use a backstaff is crucial for students of maritime history.

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