



# Solar noon today in ghana

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In the jargon of astronomers and celestial navigators, your local meridian is an imaginary semi-circle that crosses your sky's dome from due north to due south. The point where the sun crosses that arc; when the sun is highest for that day; is variously called solar noon, or midday, or high noon, or local noon or just plain noon.

At solar noon, the sun can be at one of three places: at zenith (straight overhead), north of zenith or south of zenith. At temperate latitudes in the Northern Hemisphere, the noonday sun is never at zenith but is always found in the southern sky.

Generally speaking, noon by the sun and noon by the clock seldom agree. Noon by the sun is a natural phenomenon, based on the sun's highest point for the day. Noon as defined by the sun long preceded the invention of clocks and the introduction of time zones. Needless to say, noon by the sun also preceded so-called daylight saving time or summer time, whereby we pretend that it's one hour later than it is.

Consider that; within a single time zone; noon by the sun comes earlier by the clock at the eastern edge of the time zone, yet later by the clock at the western edge of the time zone. You might notice if you routinely travel east or west within your time zone.

You don't need a clock to find out when the sun reaches its noontime position. At solar noon, the shortest shadow of the day points due north at northern temperate latitudes (or due south at southern temperate latitudes).

Place a plumb or vertical stick into the ground. Note the length of any morning shadow. Then wait until the shadow reaches this same length in the afternoon. Bisect this angle to find due north (or due south). For a fuller explanation, click into MySundial online and scroll down to 4. The Method of Equal Altitudes.

Here's an easy way to find your local noon. Visit Sunrise Sunset Calendars to find out the clock time for solar noon (sun on your meridian) in your sky, remembering to check the solar noon box.

If you prefer, you can print out the values of the Standard Time Correction, which gives you the amount to add to, or subtract from, the time on your sundial to obtain the time shown by your watch. The Standard Time correction is the sum of the Equation of Time, and the longitude correction; the longitude correction is the time the sun takes to travel between your longitude and the longitude of your standard meridian



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