

Cipher Disk

This tool was originally created by Leon Battista Alberti to encipher and decipher secret messages. The outer ring is for the plain text and the inner ring is for the **cipher** text. The letters line up to create the **key**. The key number refers to the alignment of the letters and differs based on the position of the letters on the inner ring.

To find out the key, turn the inner ring anti clockwise and count the number of letter positions to the destination letter.

- When **A** in the outer circle is aligned with **A** in the inner circle, the key equals 0.
- When **A** in the outer circle is aligned with **B** in the inner circle, the key equals 1.
- When **A** in the outer circle is aligned with **C** in the inner circle, the key equals 2.

Directions for Assembly

- Cut around the dashed outer edge of each circle.
- Place the smaller circle on top of the larger circle.
- Poke a pin paper fastener through the middle of the circles.
- Spread the ends of the fastener on the back side.

