

What is Steering Failure Recovery?

Worksheet

Steering failure recovery is the emergency technique to regain directional control when power steering fails: stay calm, use firm arm strength to steer, gradually reduce speed using light braking, and signal your path off the road.

Questions

1. Power steering fails. The wheel is now...
 - A) easier to turn
 - B) much stiffer to turn
 - C) locked in place
 - D) requires no effort
2. First priority in steering failure?
 - A) Turn hard away from traffic
 - B) Remain calm and grip firmly
 - C) Brake as hard as possible
 - D) Honk and flash lights
3. Braking in steering failure should be...
 - A) Hard and sudden
 - B) Gentle and steady
 - C) Using parking brake only
 - D) Avoided completely
4. Best place to pull over if steering fails?
 - A) Middle of the road
 - B) Left lane
 - C) Shoulder or safe area away from traffic
 - D) Into oncoming traffic
5. Power steering fails on the highway at 80 km/h. What is your first action?
6. Your steering suddenly becomes very hard in a turn. No warning light. What do you do?
7. Steering fails in traffic. You cannot pull over immediately.
8. Define: What is steering failure?
9. Define: First action if steering fails?
10. Define: How to reduce speed safely?

Answer Key

1. B) much stiffer to turn — Without hydraulic power, you must use arm strength; the wheel becomes very stiff.
2. B) Remain calm and grip firmly — Staying calm and maintaining a firm grip on the wheel is crucial to regain control.
3. B) Gentle and steady — Gentle, steady braking allows you to slow without destabilizing the car.
4. C) Shoulder or safe area away from traffic — Move to the shoulder or a safe area away from traffic to avoid collision.
5. 1. Grip the wheel with both hands 2. Remain calm; do not jerk the wheel 3. Gently apply brakes (light pressure) 4. Steer toward the shoulder
6. 1. Straighten the car by using firm steering pressure 2. Reduce speed gradually (light braking) 3. Pull over safely 4. Stop and check fluid level or call for help
7. 1. Keep both hands on wheel; use strong arm force 2. Slow down using gentle, steady brake pressure 3. Flash hazard lights and honk to warn others 4. Steer gradually to a safe shoulder once traffic clears
8. Loss of power steering or complete malfunction of the steering system, making the wheel very stiff.
9. Grip the wheel firmly with both hands and remain calm — do not panic or jerk.
10. Use light, steady brake pressure. Avoid jamming brakes. Engine braking helps slow the car.

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