

What Is Correct Steering Wheel Technique?

Worksheet

Correct steering technique uses hands at 9–3 o'clock (or 10–2), applies smooth pressure without crossing hands, and uses full lock only in parking or low-speed maneuvers. This maintains control and minimizes strain.

Questions

1. Best hand position for steering?

- A) 6 o'clock (bottom)
- B) 9–3 or 10–2 o'clock
- C) One hand at 12 o'clock
- D) Alternating hands

2. Crossing hands on the wheel...

- A) Improves control
- B) Should be avoided except at low speed
- C) Increases response time
- D) Is recommended for safety

3. Full-lock steering is safe...

- A) Always
- B) Only during parking
- C) During highway merges
- D) Never

4. Jerky steering inputs cause...

- A) Better traction
- B) Improved response
- C) Loss of control and tire wear
- D) Smoother braking

5. You approach a sharp right turn. Describe correct steering technique.

6. Parking a car in a tight space requires multiple steering inputs. How?

7. High-speed highway merge — how should you steer?

8. Define: Correct steering wheel hand position?

9. Define: Should hands cross on the steering wheel?

10. Define: Full-lock steering — when is it safe?

Answer Key

1. B) 9-3 or 10-2 o'clock — 9-3 or 10-2 balances control and allows quick response.
2. B) Should be avoided except at low speed — Hand-over-hand is only for low-speed parking; smooth inputs are better.
3. B) Only during parking — Full-lock should only be used at parking speeds, not on highways.
4. C) Loss of control and tire wear — Jerky inputs = loss of stability, uneven tire wear, discomfort.
5. 1. Pre-position hands at 9-3 o'clock 2. Turn wheel smoothly to the right 3. Allow wheel to return naturally (no crossing hands) 4. Adjust grip pressure as needed, keep hands firm 5. Maintain steering input smoothly; avoid jerking
6. 1. Full-lock steering is acceptable only at parking speeds 2. Turn wheel fully, reposition hands if needed (hand-over-hand) 3. Straighten by reversing wheel motion 4. Reposition and repeat for multiple-point turns 5. Once moving, return to 9-3 hand position
7. 1. Maintain 9-3 o'clock hand position 2. Make small, smooth inputs only 3. Avoid over-steering at high speeds 4. Gradual wheel adjustments for lane change 5. Return hands to center after merge completes
8. 9-3 o'clock or 10-2 o'clock — balanced, firm grip.
9. No — use smooth, uncrossed inputs or hand-over-hand for sharp turns at low speed only.
10. Only during parking or low-speed maneuvers. Avoid at highway speeds.

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