

Understeering

# Handle a Front Wheel Skid with Targeting Skills. Developing Vision, Motion, and Steering Sequence.

Supplies: Chair that can swivel (with protection for foot position); simulated steering wheel; student needs to recognize understeer as front wheel loss of traction; Response: steer back to target, jab brake to get rolling traction established (use ABS if equipped), and steer gently back to path of travel area.

Instructions:

Assign a student to sit in the chair that can swivel, holding a simulated steering wheel.

* Tell the student to pretend they are driving.
* Explain that in this simulation the intended path of travel toward the target is to the left (or right.)
* Tell the student to steer the vehicle to the left (or right) on target, and as soon as the vehicle gets off target, turn the steering wheel to get the front of the vehicle back on target. Remind that a slight steering effort is all that is necessary. If the vehicle begins to move quickly off target, a jab brake, and turning of the wheel would be necessary to get the tires back on target.
* Stand to the rear of the chair and push the chair slightly off target by going straight ahead. Observe how the student responds with steering and head movement away and then toward the target again.
* Push the chair again, changing the direction of the turn and quickness.
* Ask students to provide feedback about the driver’s head position and direction, speed, and the extent of the steering wheel turns.
* How does the driver recognize traction loss to front tires? (Car goes straight rather than toward target while turning)