

The technique in executing a skidding turn differs from the basic turning technique previously outlined in that the rider must steer more sharply to the side and must open the throttle wider in order to break traction. As greater power is needed to break traction, it is easier to initiate a rear wheel skid with the transmission in low gear.

Once the skid is begun, steering opposite to the direction of the skid will tend to cause the ATC to spin in a circle, while steering in the direction of the skid will tend to cause the ATC to resume a straight course. Lean your body to counter centrifugal force and reduce the hazard of overturning.

Surface composition is, of course, a major factor affecting skidding capability. It is obviously easier to slide on packed snow than in deep sand. Surfaces with extremely low or extremely high coefficients of friction must not to be used for skidding maneuvers, however. It is dangerous to skid on ice, because you may lose all directional control, and it is dangerous to skid on pavement, because you may regain traction suddenly and unexpectedly, which can cause you to lose your balance and overturn.

