

When Mother Nature dampens the day

How to adapt to a track with slippery conditions

Driving on a wet racetrack is an excellent way to hone car control skills.

First, adjust your driving line. Try driving about a half car-width off the regular racing line to avoid slippery, highly polished areas. Read the surface. **A shiny track is bad** (more standing water) and **a dull track is better** (less water). Stay off any painted surfaces and be careful to cross 'rivers' on the track with straight wheels. Avoid puddles forming at the apex of a corner.

Braking should be done far earlier and with less pedal pressure than in the dry. Be sure to finish braking in a straight line and melt off the brakes smoothly off before turning in to a corner.

Be gentle when adding gas, being sure that the wheels are straight and you're adding power very gently. Add the gas later and more slowly than when on a dry track.

Every driver input (steering, gas brakes) needs to be smoother to avoid sudden weight transfer and loss of grip.

If your car is adjustable, make it as soft as possible to absorb weight transfer.

Vision is paramount. Keep helmet and windshield free of fog. Be sure that your windshield has Rain-X and fresh wipers.

Relax, look ahead, be smooth and enjoy!

Adapt your driving technique

- Be smoother in all driver inputs
- Brake earlier and lighter
- Avoid trail braking, finish straight
- Slow down steering hands
- Initiate slowly, react quickly
- Use higher gears
- Read the track: Shiny bad, dull good
- Add gas more slowly in straight line
- If too much standing water, pit in

Adapt your driving line

- Raiders of the Lost Grip
- Avoid highly polished spots
- Avoid any painted surface
- Drive straight lines or wide arcs
- Try 1/2 car width off the line
- Cross 'rivers' straight

- Be creative in finding grip
- Sometimes where nobody goes is best

Adapt your car

- Softer is better
- Switch to deeper treaded tires
- Add a bit of tire pressure
- Softer shock settings if possible
- Reduce front camber if possible
- Clear inside fog with spray or air
- Rain-X and good wipers

Adapt to the track

- Ask where 'rivers' form
- Ask where 'lakes' form
- Ask where high polished areas are
- Ask how different surfaces are wet