

**10 Tips To Enjoy Driving Your First Autocross**

**Autocrossing your Porsche is amazing fun.** You will appreciate your Porsche more than ever and go home a better driver with more friends.

Here are a few tips to help you enjoy driving your first Autocross even more:

1. **Prepare your car** before you arrive. Make sure all fluid levels and tire pressures are to factory levels. Remove all loose items from your car so they don’t get tossed around while driving (floor mats, coffee cups, cell phones, etc.).
2. **Arrive early** and unload all remaining loose objects from your car. Tip: bring a plastic container or trash bag to put your items in.
3. **Proceed to Registration Check-In (**usually a tent). You would have already registered on-line at ClubRegistration.net and e-signed the PCA waivers before the event so when you arrive, you will just need to check in and possibly sign a City of Houston waiver. Any “work assignment” changes will be communicated here or at the drivers’ meeting.
4. **Prepare your car for the “technical inspection”** for a last minute safety check. LSR-PCA has roving Tech Inspectors that come around to each car. They will double check the basics - that your car numbers are affixed, and verify that your helmet meets the approved specifications (currently Snell 2010, 2015, or 2020). If you don’t have a helmet, LSR has loaner helmets that you can use free of charge.
5. **Walk the Course.** Join the **“**novice” walk led by our chief driving instructor. They will help you simplify how to look at the course and spot the most important cones. While walking, practice properly “looking ahead” which is the most important skill you can learn that helps you stay on-course and to rapidly progress. Walk the course as many times as the schedule allows. It’s helpful to take notes on your course map if you have one (or make a sketch yourself) to reference just before you drive.
6. **Attend the Driver's Meeting.** AnLSR-PCA Autocross volunteer will conduct a safety meeting before the start of each event. Attendance is mandatory for everyone, not just drivers. You will hear important information about the site, course, schedule, instructor identification, and any safety items.
7. **Watch other drivers** before your run to learn from them. This will help you remember where the course goes and give you some new ideas to try.
8. **Now it's your turn.** An Instructor to ride with you for your first run and subsequent runs, if you wish.Check the course map one last time, your seat belt and helmet strap. Bring your car to the staging area when signaled. Watch the car or two before you as they leave the start area. Take a slow deep breath to relax, calmly look up to spot the first 2-3 gates then drive away when signaled.
9. **Driving the course.** Drive your first run at a speed that allows you to stay on-course. Tip: Look ahead to spot the next turn before you drive past the current cone. Have fun!
10. **After your run**. Think about areas of the course where you might be able to improve next time. Watch other people drive and discuss your run with your instructor.