

# HOW TO: RIDE A STEEP CHUTE WITH A SHARP CORNER AT THE BOTTOM

Your biggest priority in this situation is not the steep chute, it is successfully making the corner at the bottom. If possible, take a minute to check out some lines and how much traction there is in the corner and/or search for hidden obstacles or holes.

In the section we have chosen, you can see that there are two options; inside or outside of the stump. The left hand line (red) is straight down and the right hand line (green) makes a bigger curve around the stump. The right hand line is a good one to start on as it makes the corner wider and gives you more room for error. Although it may be a little longer in distance, you will be able to carry more speed through it because you won't be forced to brake as hard.

Back at the top of the section, push your bike back far enough away from the section so that you can get yourself positioned on the bike before approaching the section. Never start on the edge of a tricky section of track. Approach with good momentum as it is easier to brake last minute than put in pedal strokes.

Once in the chute you will need to use more front brake than rear. This is because gravity is applying much more grip to your front wheel than your rear wheel on steep terrain and the rear wheel will skid if over used. Use a slow, smooth, controlled application so that you don't lock up the wheel. Keep it on (without locking up the wheel) until you reach your desired speed. Feathering the brakes (jamming them on and off quickly) is not recommended for hopefully obvious reasons.

It is also very difficult to ride in a straight line then throw yourself into a sharp corner, so try to slightly snake your way down the chute so that when you do reach the corner you are already in a rhythm of corners.

As you approach the corner, try to look past it so that your body follows your vision. If you get stuck staring at the sharpest part of the corner, chances are you will freeze and plough into the dirt.

Now roll on out and pat yourself on the back!

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