

## Advisory Speed Determination

Determining a safe driving speed for curves in order to post advisory speeds can be accomplished after considering the radius/degree of curvature along with road surface cross slope or by simply driving the road segment several times at increasing speeds and making a judgement of appropriate driving speed at which an acceptable comfort level is reached.

Another method is with the use of a ball bank indicator, also known as a slope meter, shown here. This device can be mounted in the front of a test vehicle for convenient observation by either the driver or a passenger. The slope meter is calibrated to read "0" when the vehicle is level but will indicate a degree of "tilt" up to 25 degrees on each side. A scale in the device is

colored red beyond 10 degrees to indicate potential danger. By driving the subject curve at successively higher speeds and observing readings on the slope meter, it is possible to select the safe driving speed and determine if posting of an advisory speed is appropriate.

One source of ball bank indicators is the Slope-Meter Company of Minneapolis, Minnesota, although other models and vendors may also be available.



***Slope meter***

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