

3. RIDING INSTRUCTIONS

There are four main skills required to effectively ride the ZBoard: coasting, accelerating, braking and turning. This section will discuss each skill in detail.

Practice in a safe, flat area free of obstacles and pedestrian and vehicle traffic.

3.1. THE COAST STANCE

Make sure the power is OFF (the Power Button should not be illuminated). Stand on to the ZBoard with the COAST stance, seen in **Figure A**.

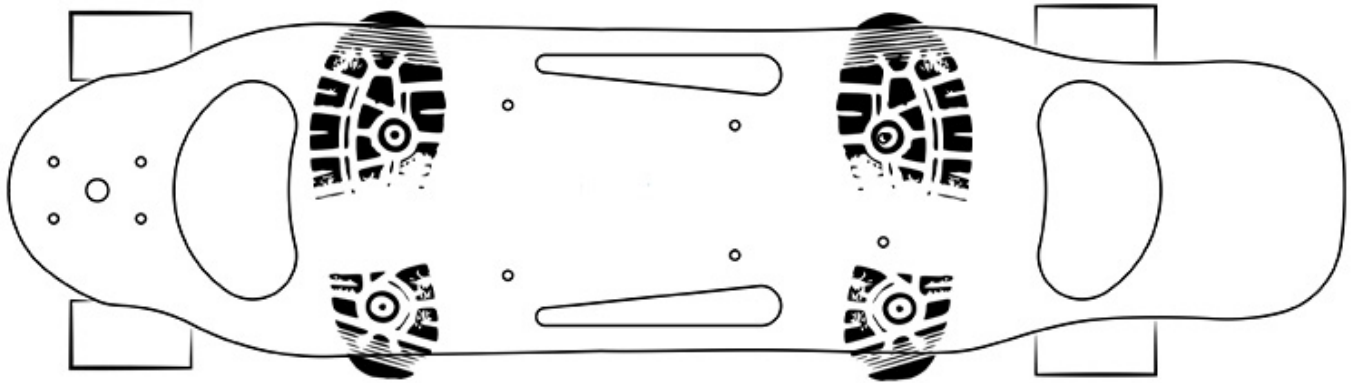


Figure A: Diagram of standing on the board correctly in the COAST stance

In the COAST stance the rider is neither accelerating nor braking, but rather stationary or slowing down gradually due to the natural resistance of the motor and bearings. When coasting downhill, it is best to ride in the BRAKING stance described in Section 3.3, to maintain optimal control of speed.

The correct COAST stance is to orient one's feet perpendicular to the direction the board is pointing, at approximately shoulder width with toes flared out slightly for balance.

Get comfortable with the flexibility of the trucks by carefully leaning towards your toes, and then your heels, bending your knees slightly for balance. Do not yet turn on the board.

If you unfamiliar with board sports, see Section 3.6 for which foot to put forward, along with other riding techniques.

3.2. THE ACCELERATION STANCE

With the ZBoard power still OFF and standing on the ZBoard in the COAST position, flare out your front foot so the ball of your front foot (near the toes) rests on the center of the front footpad. You should be able to reach this point with your foot at approximately an angle of 45° or less. If you are unable to reach the center of the footpad, adjust your stance forward and wider. See **Figures B and C** for correct and incorrect ACCELERATION stances. Avoid rotating your front foot much more than 45° from perpendicular to the board, as pointing your toe too far forward will make turning difficult and the ride less comfortable.

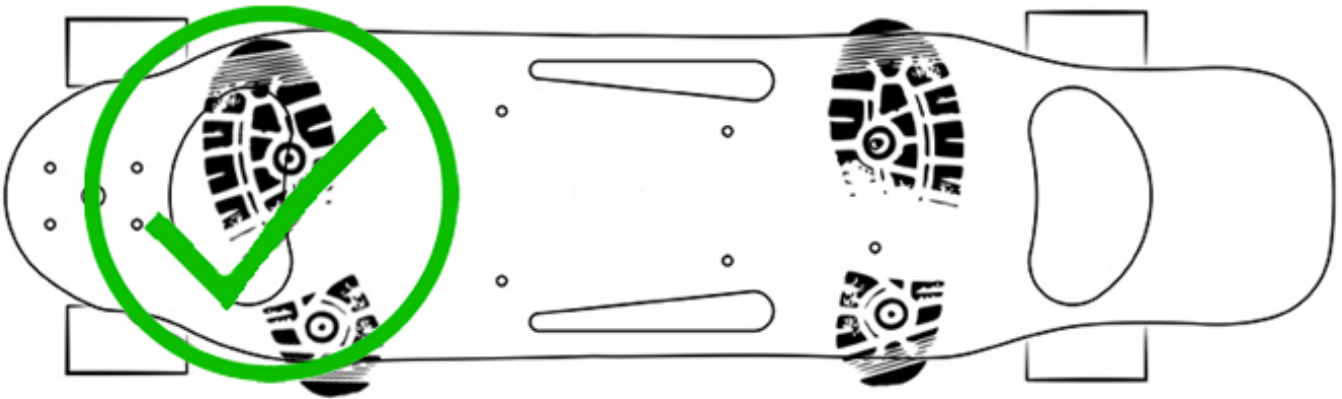


Figure B: The correct ACCELERATION stance.

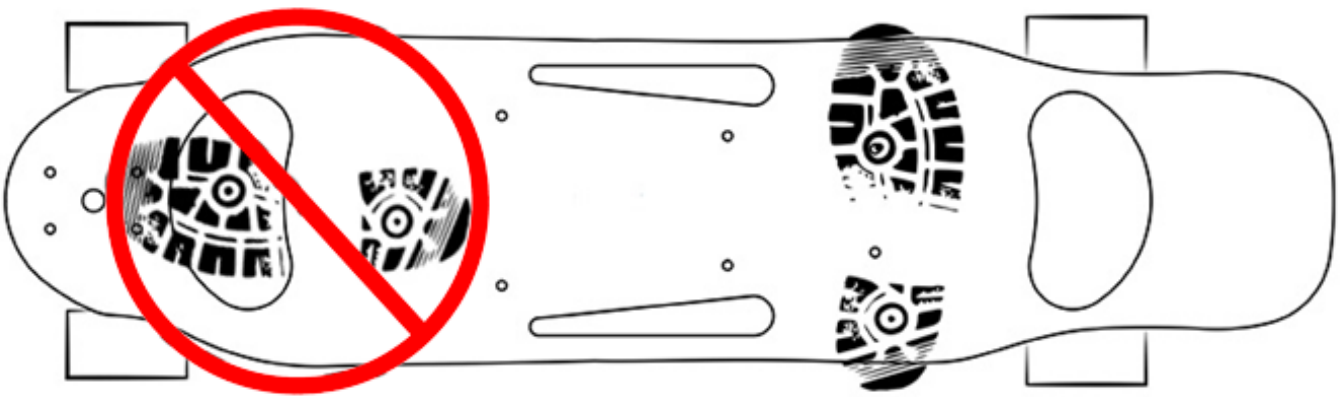


Figure C: An incorrect ACCELERATION stance. If your front foot is pointed like this, turning the ZBoard will be difficult and the ride may become uncomfortable.

3.3. THE BRAKING STANCE

With the ZBoard power still OFF, return to the COAST stance and practice moving your back foot onto the rear footpad. There are two ways to make this transition:

- 1) Flare out your rear foot so the ball of your foot rests on the center of the rear footpad, in a mirror image to the ACCELERATION stance as shown in **Figure D** below, or
- 2) If flaring your foot is uncomfortable, you may prefer to make a short slide/step with your rear foot to move the ball of your rear foot onto the center of the rear footpad. Both footpads are intentionally raised above the top surface of the board so that they can be easily located without requiring the rider to look down. It is recommended that you practice this maneuver until it comes naturally before turning your ZBoard ON.

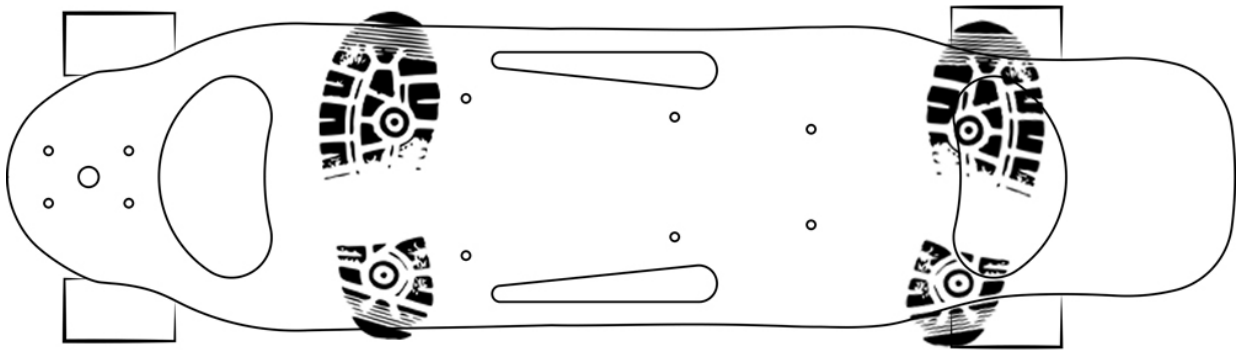


Figure D: The correct BRAKING stance. Make sure you are able to reach this position naturally and without looking down before ZBoarding at high speeds.

3.4. TURNING

With the ZBoard power still OFF, get into the COAST stance and practice shifting your weight towards your toes and heels, tilting the deck each way. The more you are able to tilt the deck, the sharper you will be able to turn. The ZBoard's trucks are designed to provide the best combination of stability at speed and turning performance. To achieve maximum turning ability², you may need to shift the placement of your feet toward the edge of the deck. For more tips on turning, see the notes below in Section 3.6.

3.5. YOUR FIRST RIDE

Once you are comfortable with the COAST, ACCELERATION, and BRAKING stances detailed above, you are ready for your first ride!

Step off the board and turn the power to ON by pressing the Power Button and holding for three seconds. An LED will light up on the switch to let you know that it has powered up.

Step onto the board in the COAST stance. When comfortable and balanced, flare your front foot out to the ACCELERATION stance. Press on the front footpad carefully with your front foot, slowly applying pressure until the board begins to move. The more pressure you apply to the footpad, the faster the ZBoard will go.

It is important to do this smoothly. Suddenly applying pressure will result in more aggressive acceleration and make balancing more difficult. The footpad is most sensitive in the center.

Once moving slowly, apply additional pressure in gradual increments to increase speed and reduce or remove pressure to coast to a slower desired speed.

Next, try the braking stance. While your ZBoard can coast to a stop, occasionally you'll want to use the brake to stop rapidly or modulate to control speed while descending a hill. Practice shifting your weight onto the brake and braking with different pressures from different speeds. The ZBoard has regenerative braking to recover some energy from motion, improving the experience for yourself and your environment.

The ZBoard's footpads are designed to rise out of the deck so you can feel them with your feet. Make sure you are able to master all of the above skills without looking down at your ZBoard.

²The ZBoard is capable of a minimum turning radius of approx. 8 feet.

3.6. RIDING NOTES

REGULAR / GOOFY: If you're unfamiliar with board sports, try the above steps while standing on the ZBoard with your left foot closest to the front. This is the REGULAR stance. Now try again in with your right foot closest to the front instead. This is the GOOFY stance. The ZBoard controls are built symmetrically to accommodate both stances, so use the one that is most comfortable.

TURNING: When starting out, we recommend you shift back to the COAST stance when you are attempting to turn. As you get more comfortable, you can begin turning while in the ACCELERATION stance by using your back foot to tilt the board. For best results, adjust the placement of your rear foot in favor of the edge of the board you are turning towards.

ONE FOOTPAD AT A TIME: As a safety feature, sensors from the rear footpad will override sensors from the front footpad. For the best experience, only put your feet on one footpad at a time.

GOING DOWN A HILL: We recommend that you reduce speed before descending any slope, and position yourself in the BRAKING stance for the duration. Modulate pressure on the brake to maintain a safe speed.

GOING UP A HILL: Entering inclines with some speed will improve the ZBoard's performance up hills and put less stress on the electronics. If you find that your wheels begin losing traction, or the ZBoard struggles to maintain speed, the hill is too steep. For the safety of yourself and your board, please find another route or carry the board until the incline becomes less steep. Riding up hills can dramatically reduce battery life and puts additional stress on your speed controller, belt, drive wheel, and other components, and should be avoided when possible.

TACKING: Tacking is the application of weight onto the kicktail of the deck with the rear foot, lifting the front wheels off the ground and rotating weight to turn the board on its axis. If you know how to tack the board around, please do so carefully. Avoid slamming the ZBoard back down on the ground as this may cause components to come loose or be damaged.

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT. START SLOW, BE SAFE, AND HAVE FUN!