

ETAM Chief Observer's "Observations"



Tip sheet Number 1

How do you set about getting yourself comfy when you get into a car that you have not driven before or after someone else has driven the one you are now in? It can be quite a faff getting it sorted so how about a suggestion on a way to set about it?

First get into the car (I find that always helps!) have a wriggle about to settle into the seat then adjust the back rest to a comfortable position. Then if the seat has a height adjustment mechanism waggle the lever, or push the button if the seat has electrically adjusted seats, until you get a good view through the windscreen. Having done that move the seat back and forth to find a position whereby you can comfortably reach and operate all the pedals. Now stretch out your arms and place them on the very top of the steering wheel, ideally your wrists, just where they meet your hands, should be on the wheel rim. You will then find that when you drop your hands onto the correct 'ten to two' position on the wheel your elbows are comfortably bent and you will be able to operate the steering wheel correctly. If this is not the case then you may have to slightly re adjust the seat back to get your wrists to settle onto the rim correctly. Of course if you are the only driver of the car then you won't have to do all of this every time but I do find myself checking that my wrists sit correctly on the wheel whenever I get into either of our cars just to make sure.

Happy motoring,

Dennis