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# The Half Reverse Cuban Eight

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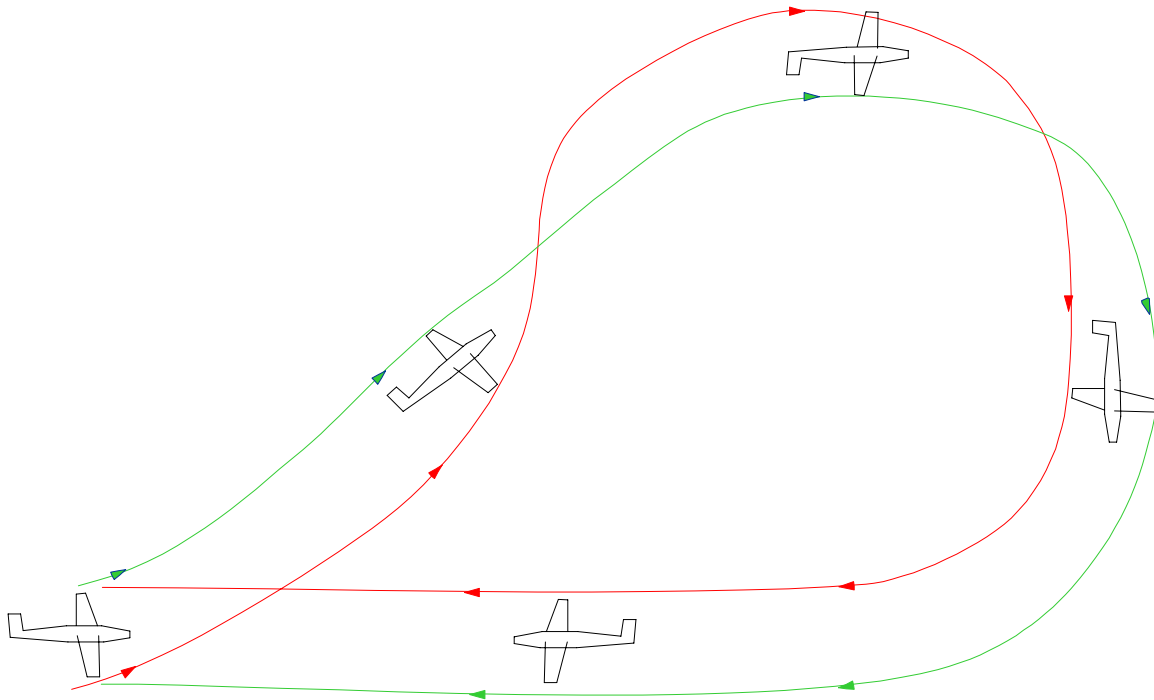
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In last lesson's maneuver the Cuban Eight we started with a loop followed by a roll. The Half Reverse Cuban Eight is just the opposite. It starts with a roll followed by a loop.

Here's a description on the maneuver. Starting from straight and level flight the plane pulls up into a 45 degree climb, hesitates, then performs a half roll to inverted, hesitates again, maintaining the 45 degree climb, then executes a 5/8 loop back to straight and level flight in the opposite direction at the same altitude at which the maneuver was started.

Now that doesn't seem too hard to do!? Ahh, but it is trickier than it seems. Timing is a key factor to performing this maneuver properly. Let's take a look at how it's done.



*Figure 1 The Half Reversed Cuban Eight*

As always start with enough altitude so you have plenty of time to recover in case you get confused. Starting with straight and level flight as the plane passes in front of you gently pull back on the elevator stick until the plane starts a 45 degree climb. Hold the climb for a few seconds, then roll the plane either left or right to the inverted position. This is one of the areas where the timing comes in. As soon as the plane becomes inverted, push in enough down elevator to maintain the 45 degree climb. Hold the inverted position for a few seconds then gently pull back on the elevator stick to start your 5/8 loop and decrease your throttle to a fast idle. Hold enough up elevator to make your loop nice and round. As you approach the bottom part of the loop apply

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throttle and fly out straight and level heading in the opposite direction and at the same altitude at which you started.

As you can see timing in this maneuver is key. The size of the loop you have to perform will be determined by the amount of altitude gained on the 45 degree up line. The timing on the 45 degree up line is key because the roll needs to be centered on the 45 degree line. Also when you roll to inverted the plane will want to dive on you causing a small dip in the up line so be ready with some down elevator. Remember, practice makes perfect.

Next: The Stall Turn