Decent Calculations A319 - A320

Follow this example:

Calculate Top of Decent distance to approach runway

Calculate current Altitude (without the last 2 digits).

EG: 300 =30,000ft * 3 (Divided by 3) = 100 + Tail wind 15 becomes 1.5 or Head wind add 1.8

Calculation = 30,000 * 3 = 100 + 1.5 = 101.5

Default decent speed is 200knotts, if you are doing 320 knots you need to subtract 120knotts from 300 knots

120 * 10 = 12 / 101.5 + 12 = **113.5nm** is top of Decent **(Start the decent)**

Total will be the Start of Decent in NM from approach runway.

:: RATE OF DECENT ::

Flights over 300nm

Decent Speed: (Vertical Speed)

EG: Ground Speed: If ground speed is 470 knots (Times this by 5)

EG: 470 X 5 = 2,350

Rate of Decent will be 2,350 per minute (This can be managed if descending too fast)

Above is just an example but the calculations apply to your current Altitude and Ground speed. We normally start calculations 300nm or from the runway (Check progress in the MCDU) this gives you enough time to calculate your decent. (Always try to hold the decent speed to 200knotts) then as you get closer the Aircraft should do the rest)

*******This procedure is used if Auto pilot not working correctly, and you are required to manually monitor the decent or hand fly the Aircraft******

For flights Under 300nm do your calculations before starting flight