



Backing your car into a parking space is easier, and safer

Backing out of a parking spot can sometimes be a little stressful and, in some cases, dangerous. That's why there are many benefits to backing your vehicle into a parking spot.

When backing out of a parking spot you are entering an active traffic zone and because of the vehicles parked next to you, your line of sight is obstructed.

However, if you drive out of the parking space, you'll be able to see on-coming traffic much better, because you won't have to pull out as far before you can see what's coming.

It's easier and safer to back into a space on your right.

- Locate a space on your right. Check traffic, mirrors and right blind spot. Be alert to the possible movement of any parked vehicles. Move to the left to leave about a car width between you and the back of the parked cars.
- Activate the right turn signal. Signal your intention to stop by flashing your brake lights at least 3 times. Stop when the rear of your vehicle is lined up with the centre of the vehicle parked after the empty space.
- Assume the position for “backing-into-a-right-turn”.
- Apply gentle pressure to the accelerator. Aim at the centre of the space, steering sharply to the right. Glance to check clearance on both sides of the space. Steer to the left to straighten out.

You may have to advance straight ahead and back into the space again to centre your vehicle.

Myth #1: Reverse parking disrupts traffic.

While reverse parking may disrupt traffic flow, it is arguable that backing out of a parking space also disrupts traffic and might be more dangerous.

Myth #2: Reverse parking is less safe.

Parking lots are full of pedestrians and vehicles, and therefore the probability of injury is high.

Backing into a parking space is about making the environment safer when the driver leaves the parking space. When backing in to a space, a driver is going into a known space with no vehicle and pedestrian traffic. When leaving the parking space, the driver is able to see the surroundings more clearly.

On the other hand, backing out of a parking space means going out into unknown and changing traffic. A driver's view is further hindered by the cars parked next to it. The other cars are directly in the driver's blind spots.

Give the "backing in" method a try for a while. Once you get used to it, you'll find leaving the parking space into the traffic flow much easier

To find out more, contact us anytime at 1-855-390-9300 or info@gatewayinsurance.ca.