



BACKING



There are different basic backing maneuvers that a driver must master in order to properly get the job done, however, all backing has the potential to become dangerous if the driver isn't alert and someone or a vehicle gets in their path or if the driver does not take the precaution to get out of the truck as many times as needed to make sure the trailer is heading in the right direction.

It is always necessary to perform these safety checks before backing up:

- get out of the vehicle and look around checking above, under and the sides of the vehicle
- check for adequate swing clearance
- warn others you're backing up by tapping your horn
- Start backing as slowly as possible using the lowest reverse gear
- Always try backing to the left side (sight side) whenever possible
- Constantly check all mirrors and back up slowly
- turn off the radio and keep the windows open to listen for noises
- Get out and check where the trailer tail is going.

No matter how much experience you have, it is always necessary to get out and check your surroundings for obstacles you couldn't see from the truck. Many parking spots are difficult to get into and it is always a good idea to have a fellow driver alert you if your trailer is not heading where you want it to.



Constantly check all mirrors and back up slowly