



SPACE FOR TURNS



The space needed to complete a turn for a commercial vehicle is greater than the one needed for cars. This is true because of what's called offtracking and wide turning. Large vehicles need extra space and you need to be aware of your surroundings in order to avoid hitting objects or other vehicles during a turn.

1. Right turns: Here are some of the things you need to do in order to prevent a right turn collision:

- Turn slowly to give yourself and other drivers time to avoid a collision and always scan your mirrors before and while turning.
- If you're making a right turn and can't complete it without swinging into another lane, turn wide as you complete the turn, keeping your trailer rear as close to the curb as possible. This will help stop small vehicles from passing you on the right.
- Don't start your turn wide to the left. Other drivers will think you're turning left and try to pass you on the right.
- If you have to cross into the oncoming lane to make the turn, look for vehicles coming towards you and give them room to go by or stop. Lots of times as a courtesy other vehicles back up so you can complete the turn, however you should never back up for anyone because you might hit the vehicle behind you.

2. Left turns: you must always wait for traffic to clear before you start your left turn.

- You have to be patient and wait for the correct moment to make your turn, if you turn too soon to avoid staying in the center of the intersection the left side of your vehicle may hit a car because of offtracking.
- If there are two turning lanes, you should always use the right lane because you may have to swing right to make the turn and drivers on your right are hard to see.

