



Safety Tips

A five-minute training series for PCOs.

Backing Up Accidents



Although backing up accidents are not our most expensive vehicle accidents, they are one of our most frequent. Almost 20% of our vehicle accidents in 1998 were caused by backing.

Lack of visibility and not paying attention were the two main causes. The best remedy for preventing backing up accidents is to back into the parking position. This will afford you the ability to pull forward when leaving. This will provide the best visibility. Even when parking in someone's drive way, it is best to back into the driveway and drive forward to leave.

When this is not possible, you must pay strict attention to everything around your vehicle when exiting. Observations need to include:

- **Look all around your vehicle as you approach it.**
- **Make sure your mirrors are properly adjusted.**
- **Look in all three mirrors before backing up.**
- **Honk your horn before backing (unless your vehicle has a back-up alert).**
- **If you cannot see around the vehicle or other obstruction beside you, back up very slowly and honk your horn as you back up.**

REMEMBER----BACK IN----PULL OUT