



SAFETY BRIEF

PREVENTING BACKING COLLISIONS

Did you know that 25% of all collisions occur when backing up a vehicle? Backing up can be dangerous because it is difficult to see what and who is behind you. The best way to prevent backing collisions is to put yourself in situations where backing is not required. If you need to back up, follow these suggestions:

- Walk around your vehicle checking for hazards.
- Use a spotter when possible. Have the spotter use hand signals instead of verbal cues.
- Be aware of your blind spots. Don't rely solely on your mirrors. Blind spots can extend up to 16 feet in front and 160 feet behind the vehicle.
- Back up slowly while looking and listening for signs of trouble.
- Honk your horn to alert others.
- Aim to position your vehicle to back up straight instead of at an angle.
- Position the vehicle to back out of traffic and not into it.
- Never back up until you know you are clear of other vehicles and people.
- Be extra cautious in poor weather conditions.



**BACKING ACCIDENTS CAUSE
APPROXIMATELY 500 DEATHS
AND 15,000 INJURIES EACH
YEAR IN THE UNITED STATES**



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