One in four traffic crashes involves backing. Considering that the average driver operates in reverse less than a total mile every year, this statistic is even more alarming.

To prevent backing crashes, plan ahead, reduce backing operations, or even avoid backing whenever possible.

When you must back up as a last resort, the following tips will help you avoid collisions:
• Continuously check all mirrors while backing
• Always back slowly while continuously looking and listening for signs of trouble especially when backing from angle parking.
• Try to position the vehicle to avoid backing if possible.
• If backing cannot be avoided, it is better to back in upon arrival than to back out later while departing.
• Conduct a visual walk-around of the vehicle to check for maneuvering room or pedestrians.
• Whenever available, use a passenger to guide you during backing operations.

All backing crashes are preventable.
The following key failures can lead to collision during backing operations:
• Failure to look before backing
• Failure to check for blind spots
• Failure to conduct a walk-around
• Backing at an unsafe speed
• Failure to check mirrors continuously during backing