

Reverse Angle Parking

What is Reverse Angle Parking?

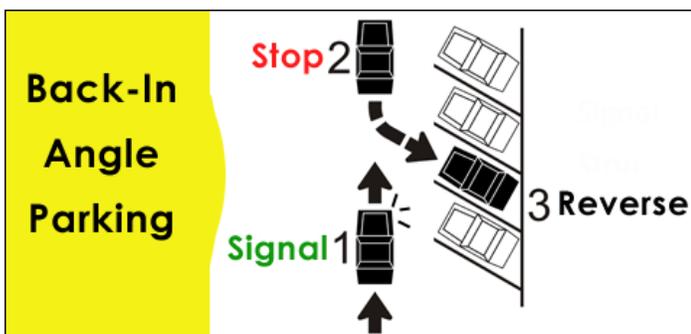
Back-in angle parking is a safer form of the traditional nose-in angle parking. It is sometimes referred to as reverse-angle or reverse diagonal parking. Instead of pulling into the parking spot, drivers, back into their spot. This allows them to make eye contact with oncoming traffic when exiting the parking spot.

With back-in angle parking, the parking lines are reversed or angled in the opposite direction indicating that a driver is to back into the spot. Signage may also be added to indicate that drivers are to back in.

How back-in angle parking works

Back-in angle parking has the same initial steps as parallel parking:

1. Signal a right turn to warn other drivers.
2. Pull past the parking spot and stop.
3. Reverse into the parking spot.



Benefits

Back-in angle parking has multiple safety and operational benefits for vehicles as well as pedestrians and bicyclists, such as:

- Provides motorists with better vision of bicyclists, pedestrians, cars and trucks as they exit a parking space and enter moving traffic.
- Eliminates the risk of a bicyclist being 'doored' when the bicyclist is traveling in a bicycle lane next to a parallel parked car.
- Removes the difficulty that drivers, particularly older drivers, have when backing into moving traffic.
- Positions the trunk or back of the vehicle to the sidewalk, enabling easier loading/unloading of items.



- Positions the driver and passengers, including children, to enter/exit the vehicle towards the sidewalk instead of into moving traffic.
- Increases parking capacity (10 to 12 feet of lateral curb per vehicle, versus 22 feet per vehicle for parallel parking).
- Is easier than parallel parking.

Back-in Angle Parking, continued...

Considerations before Installation

As a general rule, back-in angle parking should be installed on side streets first. This will enable drivers to become familiar and comfortable with the parking change. Over time and with community acceptance, it may be expanded to major streets.

Prior to installation, the change should be publicized so that people understand and accept the change. A learning curve should be expected, thus parking a vehicle in one of the spaces each morning can help drivers understand the action.

Appropriate signage will also help to educate drivers on how to park.

Other considerations include:

- Vehicles overhanging the sidewalk or backing into trees or street furniture. This can be eliminated with proper design and placement.
- Vehicles may enter the spaces head-in from the opposite side of the street. This can be alleviated with signage and enforcement.
- Potential Congestion: As with parallel parking, backing in may cause some congestion.

Overall, back-in angle parking improves the safety of cyclists and drivers by increasing visibility, and makes accessing your car easier and safer.

