Van Backing Safety

Avoid backing by setting up a front exit.

Do not position your vehicle so you will have to back into traffic.

Back from the driver’s side to improve visibility.

Assess areas you are backing into for overhangs, wires, and other obstructions. GOAL

Always complete a walk-around of your vehicle before backing.

Assess areas you are backing into for overhangs, wires, and other obstructions. GOAL

When backing in difficult situations, gain the assistance of a reliable spotter. Stop if you lose sight of the spotter.

Rear cameras help, but you must also use your mirrors to see all blindspots.

GOAL: Get Out and Look

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Van Backing Safety

15-Passenger vans have larger blind spots than cars. Adjust mirrors to minimize blind spots on both sides and directly behind.

Adjust your side mirrors for maximum visibility. You should not see too much of the van in your mirrors.

Shut off your radio, end distracting activities, and roll your window down so you can hear.

Children under five years old and adults 70 and older have an elevated risk of being back-over victims compared to the rest of the population. According to NHTSA, 47% of passenger vehicle back-over fatalities involved victims younger than five years old.¹

Use extra caution around children and the elderly.

¹Fatalities and Injuries in Motor Vehicle Backing Crashes; The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users; Report to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation