

Forward Bay Park

1. When driving forward into a parking bay, you will be using the following skills:
 - a. Co-ordination of foot pedals
 - b. Accuracy of Steering
 - c. Hand/foot/eye co-ordination
 - d. Decision making
2. When in a public car park, you have a multitude of hazards around you (other vehicles, pedestrians and animals). Observation is very important in making sure that you and/or others are not put at risk. Throughout this document, constant reminders on “**all round checks**” are placed in many sections.
3. One method in driving forward into a parking bay is set out below.

Step 1 – The Approach

4. Drive across the front of the parking bays, giving yourself as much space as possible from the bays you intend to drive into. **All round checks must be made continually to ensure the car is not being a risk to others.**

Step 2 – Drive to the point of turn

5. Identify early which bay you intend to drive into and then line the furthest side of the bay to the upper corner of your door mirror (Figs 1 & 2). **All round checks must be made continually to ensure the car is not being a risk to others.**

Fig 1.



Fig 2.



If turning to the right

6. When the edge of bay is lined up to the right door mirror (Fig 1), turn the steering wheel full lock to the right **All round checks must be made continually to ensure the car is not being a risk to others.**

If turning to the left

7. When the edge of bay is lined up to the left door mirror (Fig 2), turn the steering wheel full lock to the left **All round checks must be made continually to ensure the car is not being a risk to others.**

Step 3 – From the point of turn to stopping inside the bay.

8. Keep the car moving very slowly as it turns in towards the bay. As you are turning in, keep checking around to see when you are nearly straight and parallel with the bay lines. It means you are now in the correct position to immediately straighten your front wheels. **All round checks must be made continually to ensure the car is not being a risk to others.**

Step 4 – The stopping position.

9. As you are slowly going forwards in a straight line, keep an eye on the back line of the bay (which is in front of the car). **All round checks must be made continually to ensure the car is not being a risk to others.** Stop the car when the back line suddenly appears under your door mirror (Fig 3). Then secure the car by applying the handbrake, put into neutral, feet off the pedals.

Fig 3.



Step 5 – The reverse out

10. **Identify** your route out. Which way do you go? Do you have to follow a one way system to leave the car park? Where is the exit located?
11. **Prepare** - Clutch down, put car in reverse. Slowly raise the clutch to find your biting point. Once biting point is found. FEET STILL.
12. **Observe** - A full all round check must be made. Start from checking over your right shoulder, and check all around to over your left shoulder. Once checks are done, look out the back window (directly out the back window, not use the interior mirror).
13. **Move** - Take the handbrake off. Using a combination of the light biting point of the clutch and the foot brake, make the car move very slowly backwards. **All round checks must be made continually to ensure the car is not being a risk to others.** Whilst moving (slowly) backwards, keep an eye on hazards that may appear suddenly.
14. Keep going back in a straight line until the car is three quarters of the way out before turning the steering wheel. Turn the steering wheel full lock into the direction you intend to go, stopping before you enter any other car parking bays (which may have vehicles in it). **All round checks must be made continually to ensure the car is not being a risk to others.** Secure the car.

Step 6 – The drive off

15. **Prepare** - Clutch down, put car in first gear. Slowly raise the clutch to find your biting point. Once biting point is found. FEET STILL.
16. **Observe** - A full all round check must be made. Start from checking over your left shoulder, and check all around to over your right shoulder. Once checks are done, hand on handbrake, final over the shoulders check
17. **Move** - Take the handbrake off. Keeping the speed of the car down, make the car move slowly towards the exit of the car park. **All round checks must be made continually to ensure the car is not being a risk to others.** Whilst moving, keep an eye on hazards that may appear suddenly.