

# REVERSE PARKING (PARALLEL PARKING)

## One - Two - One Method

Left      Right      Left

**KEY POINTS**  
**CONTROL**  
**OBSERVATION**  
**ACCURACY**

STOP INSIDE  
A GAP OF  
2 CAR LENGTHS  
(i.e. imagine a parking space  
of only 2 lengths of your car)



## Lesson Plan

**Subject:** Reverse Parking (parallel park)

**Objective:** To be able to reverse the car safely, under full control, parking it close to the kerb.

**Main Points:**

- Moving off from starting point - MSM
- **(Stage 1)** Pull up alongside car – 2 to 3 feet away & your mirror to their front bumper. Ensure wheels are straight & car is parallel.
- POM before reversing. Seatbelt not required for reversing (remember to refasten when moving forward). *What must you look for?*
- **(Stage 2)** Point of reference for turning point (ie when marker on rear side window / rear wheel reach the corner of the parked car, turn the steering wheel one full turn left). *Where will you look as you start to turn? Why?*
- **(Stage 3)** When to turn back (ie as a guide - when your left door mirror lines up with the corner of the parked car / actual – when your car is at 45° to kerb), turn the steering wheel 2 full turns right.
- **(Stage 4)** When to straighten up, one turn left (just before parallel to kerb)
- Finishing point (within 2 car lengths, parallel to kerb, no more than approx “1 drain’s width” away from kerb)
- Keep car slow – don’t let car run-away – use brake.
- Safety – observations throughout. *Why look mainly in direction of travel? What to do about other road users? Flashing headlights?*
- Keep car accurate. No bumping or mounting kerbs. Beware of camber (car may pick up speed).