

Backing and Reversing Hazards

Introduction

Reduce backing through planned one-way routes and suitable parking where possible. When reversing is necessary, control pedestrian access and confirm the entire movement can be made safely.

Hazards & Controls

Inspect the route, adjust mirrors, check cameras and warning systems, and use the required spotter or observer arrangement. For covered equipment with an obstructed rear view, OSHA requires the specified audible reverse alarm or a worker signaling that movement is safe; stricter site controls may require both.

Back slowly with the required controls in place. Stop for people entering the zone, uncertain clearance, or lost communication. An alarm does not guarantee people will move. If leaving the cab to check, first secure the machine; a walk-around is not a substitute for maintaining a clear path during movement.

Follow the manufacturer instructions and employer's task-specific procedures for this equipment. These awareness notes do not qualify an operator, authorize a task, or replace required training and inspection.

Safety Reminders

Keep people clear of moving equipment and suspended loads. Stop for lost communication, unsafe clearance, equipment defects, or changing conditions. Reassess and restore controls before resuming work.

Engagement Questions

How can we avoid backing, and what controls are required if we cannot?

What site-specific hazards or changes would make us stop work?

Sources and use notice

OSHA: Construction Safety and Health

OSHA: Material Handling Equipment (1926.602)

These materials are general educational suggestions, provided as is. They may contain errors or omissions and are not a complete safety program, professional advice, or a substitute for required training. Employers and users must independently verify the information, assess site hazards, and follow current applicable requirements and manufacturer instructions before use. To the extent permitted by applicable law, SAVIOR Supplies disclaims warranties of accuracy, completeness, and suitability and liability for loss, injury, or damage arising from use of these materials. Nothing excludes liability or rights that cannot lawfully be excluded. Attendance does not establish competency. Not an OSHA publication or endorsement.

Meeting Record & Sign-In

Backing and Reversing Hazards

Company: _____ Date: _____

Jobsite: _____ Presenter: _____

Time / duration: _____ Crew / shift: _____

Site-specific hazards and controls discussed

	Printed name	Signature
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		

Follow-up action / responsible person / due date

Signatures record participation only. They do not establish competency, certify compliance, or waive rights. Retain completed sheets under company policy. Print additional copies for larger crews.