

## Chapter 5 - Parking

Drivers are responsible for making sure their vehicles do not become hazards after they have been parked. Whenever you park your vehicle, be sure it is in a place that is far enough from any travel lane to avoid interfering with traffic and visible to vehicles approaching from either direction.

- Always park in a designated area if possible.
- On one-way streets, you may normally park on either the right or left side of the street.
- Always set your parking brake when you park. Leave the vehicle in gear if it has a manual transmission, or in park if it has an automatic transmission.
- Check traffic before you open the door. Get out of the vehicle on the curb side if you can. If you have to use the street side, check traffic before you get out. Always have passengers, especially children, exit the vehicle on the curb side. Check for bicyclists, who often travel on the right-hand side of the travel lanes, near parked cars. Shut the door as soon as you can after getting out.
- Never leave the keys in a parked vehicle. Lock the doors whenever you leave your vehicle if it will be out of your sight at any time.
- If you must park on a roadway, park your vehicle as far away from traffic as possible. If there is a curb, park as close to it as you can.
- When you park on a hill, turn your wheels sharply towards the side of the road. This way, if your vehicle starts to roll downhill, it will roll away from traffic (refer to Parking on Hills).

### No-Parking Zones

There are many areas where you cannot park. Check for signs that may prohibit or limit parking. Some parking restrictions are indicated by colored curb markings. Do not park:

- In an intersection.
- On a crosswalk or sidewalk.
- Across a driveway entrance.
- On the left side of a two-way street.
- Alongside a curb that is painted yellow.
- On a bridge.
- Blocking a fire hydrant.
- Blocking the normal traffic flow or creating a hazard to other drivers.
- With your vehicle facing against traffic.

### When can you park in handicapped parking spaces?

Handicapped parking spaces may only be used when the vehicle displays a handicapped person placard or license plates, and a physically handicapped person is the occupant of the motor vehicle at the time of parking, or a physically handicapped person is being dropped off or picked up.

## International Symbol of Access

This symbol marks spaces for vehicles operated by or used to transport people with handicaps. **Violators, when convicted, shall be punished by a fine of no less than fifty dollars (\$50) and no more than three hundred dollars (\$300).**



The law also provides that:

- It is illegal to park in handicapped parking access aisles.
- It is illegal to use a handicapped person's placard or license plates to park in designated handicapped parking spaces if the handicapped person is not being transported at the time.

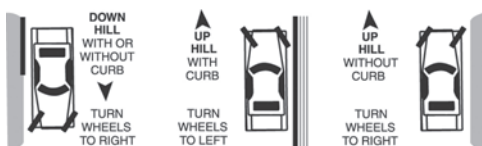
## Parking on Hills

Before leaving your parked vehicle:

- Turn your wheels in the proper direction (see graphic below);
- Turn off the motor, leaving the vehicle in proper gear;
- Set the emergency or parking brake;
- Remove the keys from the ignition;
- Check your rearview mirror for traffic before stepping out; and
- Lock it and pocket the keys.

Before you drive away from any parking space, be sure to check for traffic and signal.

## Parallel Parking



- Stop even with the vehicle ahead of the parking space about 1½ feet to the left of that vehicle.
- Turn wheels sharply to the right, and back slowly into the parking space. Be sure the front of your vehicle does not block passing or oncoming traffic.
- When clear of the front vehicle, turn wheels sharply to the left and continue backing.
- Turn wheels sharply to the right and pull forward toward the curb. Park in the center of the parking space.

