

**backwards**

['bækwədʒ] = backward III

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**backwards****back·wards** [backwards] *BrE* ['bækwədʒ] <sup>ˈ</sup> *NAmE* ['bækwɜːdʒ] <sup>ˈ</sup> (also**back·ward** especially in *NAmE*) *adverb***1.** towards a place or position that is behind

- I lost my balance and fell backwards.
- He took a step backwards.

**Opp:** ↑forward**2.** in the opposite direction to the usual one

- 'Ambulance' is written backwards so you can read it in the mirror.
- In the movie they take a journey backwards through time.

**3.** towards a worse state

- I felt that going to live with my parents would be a step backwards.

**Opp:** ↑forward**4.** (*NAmE*) (*BrE* ,**back to 'front**) if you put on a piece of clothing backwards, you make a mistake and put the **back** where the front should be**more at** know sb/sth backwards **at** ↑know <sub>v.</sub>**Idioms:** ↑backward and forward ▪ ↑bend over backwards**See also:** ↑back to front ▪ ↑backward**backwards**

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**back·wards** **S3** /'bækwədʒ \$ -wɜːdʒ/ *BrE* <sup>ˈ</sup> *AmE* <sup>ˈ</sup> (also **backward** /-wəd \$ -wɜːd/*American English*) *adverb***1.** in the direction that is behind you **OPP forwards:**

- Hannah took a step backward.
- She pushed me and I fell backwards into the chair.

**2.** towards the beginning or the past **OPP forwards:**

- Count backwards from 100.

**3.** with the back part in front:

- Your T-shirt is on backwards.

**4.** towards a worse state **OPP forwards:**

- The new measures are seen by some as a major step backwards.

**5.** **backwards and forwards** first in one direction and then in the opposite direction, usually many times:

- Kip stumbled backwards and forwards before falling down.

**6.** **bend/lean over backwards (to do something)** to try as hard as possible to help or please someone:

- City officials bent over backwards to help downtown businesses.

**7.** **know something backwards** *British English* **know something backwards and forwards** *American English* to know something very well or perfectly:

- She practiced her part until she knew it backwards and forwards.

**backwards**

Freakuency Pack

12500 **3792**<sup>MCW</sup>15000 **71**<sup>COCA</sup>RANGE: **1k** **BACK** 550770

back 517529

backed 9032

backing 5545

backs 7549

backbone 1519

backwards 3124

backward 6200

backwardness 272

backwardnesses 0

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

2401 **9885**<sup>3124</sup> *rl*