Backing the Tractor-Trailer in Straight Line Checklist

1. Put vehicle in position by moving forward until tractor-trailer is aligned and front wheels are straight.

2. Put vehicle in reverse.
   - Back as shower as possible (use idle speed)
   - Don't ride clutch or brake

3. Constantly check behind when backing.
   - Keep doors closed--always watch both mirrors.
   - Make maximum use of mirrors to detect persons/objects crossing into intended path.

4. Steering
   - Keep vehicle on path.
   - Do not oversteer.
   - Correcting drifts.
     - Turn steering wheel in direction of drift as soon as it occurs.
     - Do not oversteer, only slight movement required if caught right away.
     - Little drifts need small correction, big drifts need big ones
     - Use push-pull method of steering to keep trailer in line
     - When trailer drifts, it gets bigger in mirror, push steering wheel towards that mirror to correct.
     - Immediately straighten steering wheel.
     - If late in catching larger image of trailer, push wheel more biggest error in push-pull method--not returning wheel to straight position immediately.

5. Pull up and start again if too far out of position
   - Easier to make corrections moving forward (i.e., get the vehicle back in proper position).
   - When it is not necessary to stop, pull up and make corrections in steering path.