

Match the headings below with the correct paragraphs.

- a) **Driving an excavator**
- b) **Digging**
- c) **Parking**
- d) **Backfilling**

1) _____

To drive, you want to become familiar with your track **pedals**, which control the direction of your tracks. You can either use your hands or feet with the track pedals. If you are facing forward, your track pedals will operate as follows:

Both petals pressed forward: The excavator will move forward in a straight line.

Right petal: Your track will move to the right.

Left petal: Your track will move to the left.

Both petals pressed backwards: The excavator will move backwards in a straight line.

2) _____

Just like the controls, learning the correct way to dig is **essential** to becoming efficient as an excavator operator. Safety is key. Remember to start straight over your **tracks**, which should keep your machine the most stable. Here are tips to help you dig effectively:

Take your feet **off** the track pedals before digging.

Start by extending the stick straight out.

Make sure the teeth of the **bucket** are **angled** enough to dig into the ground easily.

Lower your bucket into the ground. When you have enough dirt, curl your bucket.

Raise your **boom** high enough off the ground to prevent dragging.

Use your swing controls to move towards the direction you'd like to drop your dirt.

Open your bucket to drop the dirt.

3) _____

Backfilling with a bulldozer is preferred, but if nothing else is available, you can backfill effectively with an excavator. It takes a lot of stick time to become **proficient**, so new operators should take it slow and follow these general steps:

Start at the furthest point out from the excavator and work your way in.

Scoop as many piles of dirt as possible back into the hole. Avoid digging below the surface.

Once you move the majority of dirt, you can use the side of the bucket to move the **remaining** dirt over the hole.

B. Put the sentences in order.

Properly parking your excavator is extremely important. This will ensure that you are able to climb out safely, and that the excavator is ready for the next job.

___ Pull up on your safety lock lever/parking brake to lock the machine.

___ Position yourself so you are square with your tracks.

___ Turn the throttle down.

___ Leave the machine idling for the manufacture's recommended amount of time.

___ Turn the excavator off.

___ Lower the bucket so that it is flat to the ground. Lower the bucket so that it is flat to the ground.

C. Match the pictures with the words in bold.



D. Match the definitions below with the words in bold.

1. not straight, placed in an angle
2. left over after being used
3. important
4. refill a hole with the material dug out of it
5. competent or skilled
6. Pick up or lift
7. Remove