

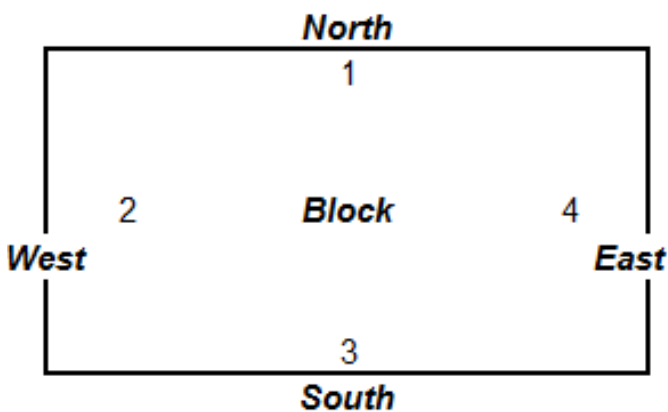
Metered Parking - Timestay and Block Face FAQs

What is a meter timestay?

A meter timestay is the maximum amount of time you can put on a meter starting from zero. In higher demand areas, meter timestays are restricted to 2 hours. In lesser demand areas, meter timestays range from 4 hours to all-day. This means you can purchase a **maximum** of 2 hours at a 2 hour meter, or 4 hours at a 4 hour meter before you need to move your car off the block face.

What is a block face?

A block face is one side of a block between road intersections. Most blocks have four block faces - north, south, east, and west. The Municipal Code says that once you have received the maximum timestay at a meter, you must move your vehicle off the block face. The block face acts as a zone where vehicles are only allowed to stay as long as the meter timestays within that zone. Pulling into the next meter stall is **NOT** moving off the block face, and could result in a \$30 ticket for overtime stay.



What does "overtime stay" mean?

Overtime stay means your vehicle has already used the maximum timestay for a block face but has not moved off of the block face. Staying on the same block face past the maximum timestay of the meter is prohibited by [SMC 16A.61.561.B](#) and could result in a \$30 ticket.

What does "feeding/plugging the meter" mean?

Paying the meter again after you've received the maximum timestay for that meter is called meter feeding or plugging. Feeding or plugging the meter is prohibited by [SMC 16A.61.5914](#) and could result in a \$10 ticket.

Do I still have to move my car if I park at an all-day meter?

You can leave your car at an all-day meter for the entire time meters are rated (8am-7pm Monday – Saturday). You **are** still subject to other parking restrictions, like the [continuous parking ordinance](#) for parking in the right of way and [paying the meter](#) during rated hours.

For more information about regulations for parking in the public right of way, you can visit the [Spokane Municipal Code: Rules of the Road](#) or www.parksimple.org.

Spokane Municipal Code Excerpts

Section 16A.61.561: Parking Time Limited and Regulated

- A. No vehicles shall be parked continuously on any one block face upon any public street or highway in this City at any time for a period longer than twenty-four hours. Vehicles in violation may be deemed unauthorized and subject to twenty-four hour notification of impoundment and be impounded.
- B. Between the hours of eight a.m. and seven p.m., Monday through Saturday, no vehicle shall be parked on any one block face upon any street within; the parking meter area (as authorized by [SMC 16A.61.5902](#)) beyond the maximum time allowed by the meter, and are required to move off the block face after the maximum time allowed by the meter has expired until the next calendar day, except that pay-by-phone customers may purchase one, fifteen minute time extension beyond the legal maximum parking time by phone; provided, the city council may fix a shorter or longer time for parking in reserved and other restricted parking places established under the provisions of this code, the same to be effective when properly signed and posted by the City street director.
- C. Between the hours of eight a.m. and seven p.m., Monday through Saturday, no vehicle shall be parked within the parking meter area (as authorized by [SMC 16A.61.5902](#)), inclusive of the boundary streets, at a space from which the parking meter or space number sign has been removed for a period longer than two hours.

Section 16A.61.5914: Feeding Meter Beyond Maximum Parking Time

It is unlawful and a violation of this title for any person to deposit or cause to be deposited in a parking meter a coin or credit card for the purpose of increasing or extending the parking time of any vehicle beyond the legal maximum parking time which has been established for the parking space adjacent to which the parking meter is placed, except that pay-by-phone customers may purchase one, fifteen minute time extension beyond the legal maximum parking time by phone. Parking meters provide for different maximum times. With the exception of pay-by-phone customer purchasing a fifteen minute extension, a vehicle shall not be continuously parked at a metered space beyond the maximum time capacity of the meter. This is a “feeding meter” violation.

Section 16A.61.5910: Parking Time Limit – Deposit of Coins – Maximum Parking Time – Certain Holidays Excepted – Parking Permit

- A. The time limit for parking on streets and avenues of the City within the areas designated for the installation of parking meters and where meters are actually installed is:
 1. thirty minutes,
 2. two hours,
 3. four hours, and
 4. all day,as determined by the street director guided by considerations of administrative convenience and efficiency, traffic flow needs, or any other reasonable basis, in the interest of the public health and safety. A parking meter fee shall be paid by all persons parking a motor vehicle within any metered parking space in the area designated in [SMC 16A.61.5902](#). A sign or legend installed on each meter or parking space number sign indicates the fee and the time for which parking is permitted.
- B. In those parking meter spaces where parking meters are in operation, designed for the deposit of United States or Canadian coins, payment by credit card, or payment by phone, as designated on the parking meter or related signage, the operator of the vehicle shall, upon entering a metered parking space, immediately pay for up to the maximum legal parking time and put the meter in operation.
- C. The fees for parking in a metered space are as provided in [SMC 8.02.083](#). Credit cards, pay-by-phone, or those denominations and combinations of coins may be used which are indicated to be acceptable by the legend affixed to the meter. In any case the time given for the deposit of any coin or credit card payment is subject to the amount of unexpired time available on and indicated by the meter or parking receipt.
- D. If a vehicle shall remain parked in a parking space beyond the legal parking time displayed or recorded by the meter, an indication on the meter will signify expiration of the time purchased on single space meters or the customer receipt shall show when the purchased time will expire. The presence of a vehicle in a stall with its parking meter indicating expiration of legal parking time or beyond the purchased parking time as shown on the receipt and recorded by the pay station shall be an expired meter parking violation of this title and subject the registered owner and/or operator to liability as provided by law.