BACKWARD/BACKWARDS

**Backwards** is the more common of the two (45 out of 58) almost always used as an adverb. **Backward** is used less frequently (12 out of 58) as an adjective. One instance of **backwardness**. Possible inconsistencies include:

NN-MS-03, .p58
"the high moon rushing **backward** with frightful speed"

SL-MSY-2, .p119
"the body and head of a man projecting **backward** as it were"

OIMSPR22, .p377
"He made only about three steps **backward** but"

TYPMSAfI, .p45
"that he made more than one step **backwards**"

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AF-MS-05, .p18
He gazed into her eyes hungrily for a minute and let her go with a sigh then laying down in the canoe he put his head on her knees, gazing upwards and stretching his arms **backwards** till his hands met round the girl's waist.

AF-MS-05, .p25
Fortune seemed to elude his grasp, and in his weary tramp **backwards** and forwards under the steady-falling rain from the lowering sky a sort of despairing indifference crept over him.

AF-MS-12, .p35
The crowd massed in a semi circle before the steps of {op"}Almayer's Folly" swayed silently **backwards** and forwards and opened out before the group of white robed and turbaned men advancing through the grass towards the house.

AF-TSR05, .p86
He looked into her eyes eagerly for a minute and let her go with a sigh, then lying down in the canoe he put his head on her knees, gazing upwards and stretching his arms **backwards** till his hands met round the girl's waist.

AF-TSR05, .p92
Fortune seemed to elude his grasp; and in his weary tramp **backwards** and forwards under the the steady rain falling from the lowering sky a sort of despairing indifference took possession of him.

AF-TSR12, .p279
Leave out space of 15 lines at least)

. p279
The crowd massed in a semi circle before the steps of
{op"}Almayer's Folly" swayed silently backwards and forwards and opened out before the group of white robed and turbaned men advancing through the grass towards the house.

CHNTYR14, .p164
She screamed out all at once {op"}You mustn't speak like this of Papa!" The efort of it uprooted her from that spot where her little feet seemed dug deep into the thick luxurious carpet and she retreated backwards to a distant part of the room, hearing herself repeat {op"}You mustn't, you mustn"t as if it were somebody else screaming.

UWE-MS24, .p669
It remained quite still after alighting, one hind leg stretched backwards and the very tip of its tail moving slightly.

UWE-MS24, .p747
Afterwards he glanced backwards and forwards at us both, while the faint commencement of a forced smile followed by the suspicion of a slight frown vanished one after another: I detected them, though neither could have been noticed by a person less intensely bent upon divining him, than myself.

UWETSR24, .p314
It remained quite still after alighting, one hind leg stretched backwards.

UWETSR24, .p348
Afterwards he glanced backwards and forwards at us both, while the faint commencement of a forced smile followed by the suspicion of a frown vanished one after another: I detected them, though neither could have been noticed by a person less intensely bent upon divining him, than myself.

VICTPR42, .p519
By that time, walking backwards, his eyes, his very throat, strained with fearful excitement, his extended arm still pointing at the curtain, Wang had disappeared through the back door.

VICTPR42, .p522
On the contrary it helped in a way her first instinctive attempt to drive her assailant backwards.
She had resisted Ricardo in perfect consciousness of her efforts with the conviction at the back of her head that there was always a soft spot in men's sudden furies; she had defended herself principally by means of her fingers on Ricardo's windpipe, till she felt the terrific hug in which he stupidly and ineffectually persisted to hold her relax a little, when with a supreme effort of her arms and of her suddenly raised knee she sent him flying backwards against the partition.

Schomberg flung himself backwards.

-- {op”}I think you are made yet” said Ricardo, and, not even unfolding his arms or shifting his attitude an inch, he lowered his voice to add: {op”}And if I thought you have been to the police I would tell Pedro to catch you round the waist and break your fat neck by jerking your head backwards -- snap.

Smith with a slight backward jerk of his small head at the footsteps on the other side of the sky-light would insist in his swful, hopelessly gentle voice that he knew very well what he was saying.

the steward retreated backwards.

Couples tramped backwards and forwards keeping step and balance without effort, in a confined space.

Above the torn clouds glimpses could be caught of the high moon rushing backward with frightful speed over the sky, right into the wind's eye.

He yelled waving his arms, and two men began to crawl backwards and forwards with the mug.

But I had no notion that a place on a seacoast could remain so backward so retired out of the stream of events. It if had been a thousand miles inland now . . .

But he had heard the most discouraging reports of the backwardness of Sulaco {---}the Occidental Province for whose very development the
Don Jose Avellanos discoursed with great smoothness thus in the sala of the Gould house frequently while his reclining body jerked backwards and forwards in a rocking chair of the sort exported from the United States.

He even pushed his attentions so far that he desired the aide-de-camp at his side (a thickset, short captain with a Tartar physiognomy) to bring along a corporal with a file of men in front of the carriage, lest the crowd in its backward surges should "incommode the mules of the Senora".

He descended the stairs backwards with the usual sense of having been somehow baffled by this woman's disparagement of this reputation he had obtained and desired to keep.

A small heap of damar-gum torches lay by each, and between them Babalatchi strolled backwards and forwards stopping often with his face to the river and his head on one side listening to the sounds that came from the darkness over the water.

Bahassoen, his hand on the hilt of his sort sword, strutted backwards and forwards in the full light of the fire looking very warlike and reckless; the envy and admiration of the throng of Lakamba's retainers who stood in groups or moved about noiselessly in the distant shadows of the courtyard. --

The messenger who had been sent to Omar came back and stood at a distance, waiting till somebody noticed him.

Babalatchi stumbled backwards, recovered himself and wriggled his shoulders laboriously.
Her bare arms pressed down close to her body with hands open and outstretched fingers, her slightly elevated shoulders and the **backward** inclination of her torso gave her the appearance of one defiant yet shrinking from a coming blow.

OIMSPR21, p359
He pushed out his left arm opening the hand with haste as if he had just perceived that he got hold by accident of something repulsive and he watched with stupefied eyes Willems tottering **backwards** in groping strides, the white sleeve of his jacket across his face; he watched his distance from that man increase while he remained motionless, without being able to account to himself or the fact that so much empty and peaceful space came in between them.

OIMSPR22, p377
He had made only about three steps **backward** but he believed that another step would take him out of earshot for ever.

OIMSPR23, p449
The calashes stretched forward head first and lap** back with their faces to the sky alternatively in a regular saving that sent the boat flying through the water; and the two sitters very upright in the stern sheets swayed **backwards** rhythmically a little at every **** of the long oars plied vigorously

The mate observed.  
-- {op"}the tide is with us.  
-- {op"}the current always runs down in this river" -- said Almayer  
-- {op"}Yes.

OIMSPR24, p495
She saw nothing distinctly and unhesitating, she flew down the plankway calling out" {op")I come!"  
He heard her cry and with unexpected rush drove his wife **backwards** to the seat. she fell on it, he jerked himself altogether out of his jacket, and she covered her face with the soiled rags.

OIMSPR-7, p97
**Backwards** and forwards he paced muttering to himself, another two malays after a short consultation in whispers left the fire quietly not thinking it safe to remain in the vicinity of a white man who behaved in such a strange manner.

They retired round the corner of the godown and watched Willems curiously through the night till the short daybreak was followed by the sudden blaze of the rising sun and Almayer's establishment woke up to life and work.

RESTR35, p45
The day after the stranding they had landed
on it -- {op"}to stretch their legs a bit", as the sailing-master defined it, and every evening since, as if exercising a privilege or performing a duty, the three paced there for an hour backwards and forwards, lost in dusky immensity, threading at the edge of water the belt of damp sand, smooth, level, elastic to the touch like living flesh and sweating a little under the pressure of their feet.

He seemed to hang awfully in his backward fall.

He was fall seemed to hang in his backward fall.

He staggered backwards a little while Arlette shouted at him: {op"}You can't order me about as you used to do." In all the changes from entreaty to anger she never struck a false note so that the whole thing seemed like a heart-moving performance of inspired art.

Directly Scevola turned his back on the fore part of the tartane in order to go backwards down the little cabin ladder, Symons crawled out from his concealment.

She pushed her aunt away with such force that the old woman staggered backwards and to save herself had to catch hold of the over mantel above her head.

Arlette, still stooping over her aunt's face, extended a hand backwards towards Re{a}al, who, making a step forward, took it silently into his grasp.

His bare torso thrown backwards and sustained by his rigid big arms heavily tattooed on the white skin above the elbows, Peyrol drew a long breath into his broad chest with a pepper and salt pelt down the breastbone.

perched up there near the head of the tree, mutter counting something: {op"}One, two, three," and then a loud {op"}Parbleu" after which the lieutenant in his trunk-bestriding attitude began to jerk himself backwards.

One little tilt backwards and I would have gone -- after the others.

The earth seemed to fly backwards under
his feet.

SA-MSK02. p30
Under
his hat worn with a
slight **backward** tilt his hair
had been carefully brushed
into respectful sleekness: for
his business was with an
Embassy.

SA-MSK05. p271
The big man got out
of a third class compartement
**backward**s with a bright
tin can in his hand.

SA-MSK08. p476
Mrs
Verloc's mother got out
first **backward**s with a key in her
hand.

SA-MSK09. p589
op"} Yes" she whispered, then
raised her head and staggered
**backward**s a little
{op"} Whatever is it torn out like
p590
this?"

The Chief Inspector snatched across the counter
the cloth out of her hands and
she sat heavily on the chair.

SL-MSY-2. p119
The first thing I saw down
there was the body and head
of a man projecting **backward**
p120
as it were from a door one
of the doors at the foot of
the stairs.

SMFTSR-5. p100
She flung herself **backward**s violently her head going over the
back of the chair.

SMF-MS-5. p107
I began to tremble myself

   -- {op"} What on earth are you gone
wild about Miss Don't Care?"

   She flung herself **backward**s
her head going over the back of her chair,
exposing her white, papitating throat to
my bewildered stare.

FRS-MS-1. p1
The letter was of
the reminiscent, "do you remember"
kind a wistful
letter of **backward** glances.

**FRSTSR-1, .p1**
The letter was of the reminiscent "do you remember" kind -- a
wistful letter of **backward** glances.

**FRSTSR-4, .p72**
Antonia crouching in a corner rocked
herself **backwards** and forwards uttering feeble moans.

**TYPMSAF1, .p45**
But when
that being parting with his hands
the matted locks that hung before his
face, as you part the two halves of
a curtain with your hands looked
out at him with wild black
and white eyes this impression
of incomprehensible weirdness **
*** He had admitted since
for the castaway's story had been a
subject of conversation for years) that he
made more than one step **backwards.**
A sudden burst of senseless speech
persuaded him at once that he
had to do with an escaped lu-
natic.

**AF-MS-01, .p24**
After carefully
placing before her master a cracked glass tumbler
and a tin spoon, she squatted by the door
and drawing her sarong over her head swayed gently backwards and forwards, uncomfortably dozing.