A deep dive into "Parking Mode", what it can do and what it can't

Of all the things about dashcams parking mode causes the most misunderstanding without doubt. What dashcams were primarily designed to do is to help protect you in the most litigious situations. These are a car accident that is not your fault, a road rage incident and insurance fraud. Parking mode is a secondary function. So, what is parking mode and how does it work? **This applies to all brands**, not just UVUE.

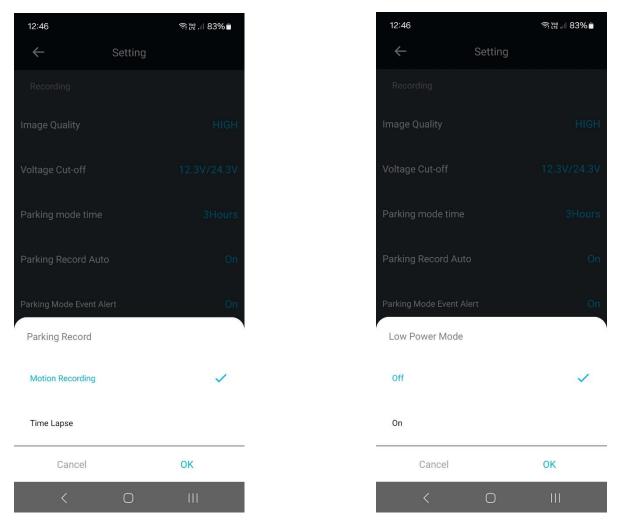
Parking mode allows the camera to record for a period of time with the ignition off. The image here is the recoding section on the app and I've highlighted the default settings.



There are two criteria that will end parking mode. The first is time, on our U22 the default time period is three hours. This can be increased but parking mode will still end regardless of time when the second criteria is reached, a low battery limit. On the U22 this is 12.3v, these are both conservative settings. The reason is our cameras get installed on so many different vehicles that we set the default for the vehicle with the smallest battery or are the most sensitive to power consumption with the ignition off.

Many retail brands will allow the voltage to be set as low as 11.5v which is a guaranteed flat battery, our lowest setting is 12.0v. Think of this like how long you can leave the head lights on and still start the car. Leave them on too long and it won't.

Default setting:



So let's talk about modes of operation. The default recording mode on the U22 is "motion". The camera is on and will only record when it sees movement, this stops the camera recording irrelevant footage and therefore extends the amount of possible useful video that can be recorded before looping occurs.

The second option is "time lapse". Normal video record at 30 frames per second (FPS) In time lapse the camera record one "photo" every second (1 FPS) This essentially turns one hour of memory space into thirty hours of time lapse video.

The third option is "low power mode", commonly called "Airport Mode". In this mode the camera turns off and will only wake up and record if an impact occurs. This will not record a vehicle backing into you but will record the offender leaving the scene of the crime. The dashcam can stay monitoring for weeks in this mode instead of the selected time period. In low power mode a time period cannot be selected.

In all of these modes the dashcams impact sensor is set to "high"

So that's how it works, what can't it do?

All dashcams irrespective of brand have limitations,

- The dashcam is dependent on the battery in the car, you can add a second battery to extend that performance but the following limitations still apply.
- The car must be driven every day to recharge the battery.
- No dashcam can record indefinitely.
- Two channel Dashcams can only record front and rear.
- Performance is severely degraded by frost, ice and rain. The camera simply cannot "see". (like our eyes)
- Dashcams can record in low light but not no light. Like your eyes looking into the darkness the recorded images will lack detail.
- Side impact not recorded is not legal proof.

Let's talk about memory cards. As per our FAQ's that come with the camera larger memory cards are required for longer recording times. A 128gb has double the space of a 64gb etc. Please avoid buying large capacity cards on sites like Ali Express and eBay as many of the cards (not all) are fakes and will not work in your dashcam. Always buy from reputable retail stores like Officeworks, JB HiFi etc.

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Technical support and product development.