

Shelf-serve garage

We all know what a hassle it is to find a parking space or try to remember where you parked in a maze-like parking garage. That frustration may be a thing of the past if this fully automated parking lot takes off.

An Ohio company is building a garage in Hoboken, N.J., using an elaborate system of lifts and rails to raise cars into one of 324 parking slots – all without your help or the aid of a parking attendant.

Parkers leave their locked car on a pallet at the entrance bay and let the computerized system take it through a series of lifts and carriers to a vacant spot. When it's time to retrieve the vehicle the parker inserts a card and the automated valet will fetch your car in minutes. No tipping, no scraping bumpers, no hairpin turns. It also is said to limit the risk of theft because there is no human traffic constantly flowing through the garage.

