# **E**mbarrassing (but only if you do it)

# We asked our British members to say what situations they find embarrassing, but only if they do it themselves. If others do it it’s completely acceptable.

1. Just tried to pick up the last basket in Morrisons. It’s fastened down. End of the world. Considered going Tesco instead but managed to get over it after successfully retrieving a basket from the stack nearby. Had I seen someone else do that, I wouldn’t bat an eyelid.

2. Having to completely 180 to go back the other direction as you've forgotten something. Gotta mutter to yourself too whilst you do it.

3. Worse when you are next in line to pay and realise you've forgotten the one item you went in to the shop for. Got to pull your phone out, pretend you got a message, mutter incoherently and wander back out of line.

4. Waving back at someone who wasn’t waving at you.

5. I often get chatting to people in the supermarket. Usually no more than a couple seconds of back and forth convo. I then keep passing them and there’s only so many times you can give a wry smile.

6. Mouthing "Hi" and waving to someone you know as you drive past, and then realising it's not them.

7. That little 'run' you do when a driver lets you pass/cross the road.

8. Carrying individual stuff, anything. Wouldn’t look twice at someone walking down the street with a loaf in their hand, but if I’m doing it, I can feel the world watching me, to the point I can almost hear them judge me. How am I supposed to carry a loaf of bread anyway, hold it by the tied opening so it swings as I walk?, cradle it like a baby?, put a hand either side of it holding it to the front like I'm some bread fetching robot?

9. Someone asked me today where the train I was about to get on goes. I started at them blankly for what felt like 10 minutes… eventually someone who overheard answered for me. I must have looked like some mentalist who just gets on random trains, oblivious to the destination. I should clarify I was only going one stop so the last one wasn’t at the forefront of my mind.

10. Yesterday I was out the front and a courier was trying to deliver to my neighbour but wasn’t getting an answer so he asked if I’d take the parcel, he passed the package to me and then was doing the thing on his little terminal and asked for my name. That particular neighbour gets my name wrong (called me a completely different name one time which starts with the same two letters as my actual name) so I kind of froze up in panic for a full second thinking “do I give my actual first name, just my surname, will neighbour even know who that is?” so I just blurted out “I DON’T KNOW” and the guy looked at me like I was actually insane.

11. Pushing a pull door

12. Tripping over your own feet. Then you have to look accusingly at the ground and check your shoe

13. Saying “you too” after the waiter says “enjoy your meal”.

14. I went through Maccy ds drive through, completed my order, the girl said “drive round to the next window”.

I said “ love you” instead of thank you.

Got extra chips though.

15. Me getting a haircut at a new barber.

Barber - so what do you do for a living?

Me - I work in a call centre. How about you?

Me internally – well, looks like I need to find another barber

16. Stalling a car? Someone else does it: Oh, they’re a bit slow starting off… ah, there we go, and we’re off.

Me doing it: OH MY GOD I’M SUCH AN IDIOT I’M HOLDING EVERYONE UP AND EVERYONE IS LOOKING AND KNOWS WHERE I LIVE AND WILL REMEMBER THIS FOREVER I CAN’T EVER LEAVE MY HOME AGAIN

17. That embarrassing walk back down the stairs of the bus after popping your head up and seeing all the seats are full on the top deck

18. My car has a weird quirk that when filling it up you have to put the petrol nozzle in at a very specific and odd angle.

Sometimes I just lose the knack and I have to drive off with the horrendous embarrassment that everyone has watched me get out of my car and (in their view) pretended to put petrol in it.

19. Trying to open the wrong car that was the exact same model car and colour as mine. Which was parked right next to it.

Key wasn't turning in the door. Thought I was having a stroke when I couldn't get in

20. Me: You alright?

Them: Yeah, good, thanks. You?

Me: Yeah, good, thanks, you?

Me internally: I have to go home and hide and never leave the house again.

21. Doing that dance when you and someone else are walking towards each other on the same course.

22. Introducing yourself to someone and them then telling you they already met you before. Worse still, multiple times before. Or (related) introducing someone you do know, and forgetting their name.

23. Or when you have a wobbly wheel on your trolley and it's making a clacking sound, you feel like everyone is looking at you like you're the one that's defective. Also, do you commit to doing your whole shop like this, or do you do the walk of shame against the flow of shoppers to change it?

24. Having a stranger point out your phone torch is on in the middle of the day.... GAH.... kill me now

25. Walking on any floor in public where my shoes just randomly seem to squeak. Especially when it’s only mine that do it. It feels like everyone is staring. You also start to walk in different ways to try and make it stop, but it doesn't work so now you're a weird walking squeeker.

26. After owning my car for well over a year and putting petrol in it twice a week since, I pulled up at the pump with my fuel cap facing wrong side. I tried to pull the nozzle round my (small) car but it just wouldn’t go. Instead of just reversing out and going to the opposite pump I drove off to another petrol station 4 miles away on petrol fumes with mad anxiety about breaking down

27. I peaked when I was 12 and called my teacher "mum" by accident (to my knowledge, she was not nor is my mother).