

Safety Information



Warning Important Safety Information

Air Pressure

Customers should be advised that the air pressure in tires, including the spare, should be checked at least monthly and always before extended driving. Tires should be checked when they are cold (at least three hours after the vehicle has been stopped and before it is driven more than one mile or two kilometers). Do not reduce pressure when tires are hot; use an accurate air pressure gauge to check pressure and maintain it at the level recommended on the vehicle tire placard or in the owner's manual. Underinflation produces extreme flexing of sidewalls and builds up heat to the point that tire failure may occur. Overinflation can cause the tire to be more susceptible to impact damage.

Over/underinflation may also adversely affect vehicle handling. Cold tire pressures should never be higher than the limit molded on the sidewall.

Load Limits

Never exceed the load-carrying limits molded on the sidewall of the tires or the maximum vehicle load limit as shown on the vehicle tire placard, whichever is less. Overloading builds up excessive heat in the tire and could lead to failure.

Hazards

Avoid running over objects (e.g. chuckholes, rocks, curbs, metal, glass, etc.) which may cause internal tire damage. Internal damage, not visible without demounting the tire, may be caused when a tire runs over an object. Continued use of a tire that has suffered internal damage (which may not be externally visible) can lead to dangerous tire failure. Determination of suspected internal damage requires demounting the tire from its rim and examination by trained tire personnel.

Tires that were operated while flat, even for a short distance, must be demounted and inspected for internal damage. Never reinflate such tires without first inspecting them internally.

Used Tires

Avoid used tires – you can never know what hazards and abuse a previously owned tire has suffered. Internal damage can lead to dangerous tire failure.

Tire Replacement

Always consult vehicle tire placard, vehicle owner's manual, or this MAST Fitment Guide.

Worn Tires

Trained personnel should replace worn tires when 2/32nds of an inch of tread depth remains, as indicated by treadwear indicators molded into the tread grooves. Use of worn-out tires (less than 2/32nds inch (1.6mm) remaining of tire tread depth) increases the probability of tire failure, and in wet conditions can cause the tire to lose traction suddenly. In most states, it is illegal to drive with less than 2/32nds of an inch of remaining tread depth.

Note: Any tire on the front wheels of a bus, truck or truck tractor used in interstate commerce to transport passengers or property, requires at least 4/32" of remaining tread depth. Taxicabs are included under the definition of a bus. [See 40CFR Part 393]

Excessive Spinning

Excessive wheel spinning, when freeing a vehicle from sand, mud, snow, gravel, ice or wet surfaces, can result in explosive tire failure, causing serious personal injury or vehicle damage. Do not exceed 35MH (55km/h), as indicated on the speedometer. Never stand near, or behind, a tire spinning at high speeds when attempting to push a vehicle that is stuck.

Speed Limits

Operating any vehicle in excess of lawful speed limits, or the maximum speeds justified by driving conditions, can be dangerous. Excessive speed creates heat buildup in a tire, leading to possible tire failure.

Speed-Rated Tires

Letters such as Q, R, S, T, H, V, W, Y or Z as either part of the size designation (e.g., ZR) or part of the service description adjacent to the size designation (e.g., 94H) identifies speed-rated tires. The letter indicates the maximum speed capability of the tire when properly loaded and inflated. However, even when tires are properly loaded and inflated, driving for prolonged periods at high speeds can cause tire damage and possibly tire failure, which could lead to an accident.

Original Equipment speed-rated tires must be replaced with tires of the same or higher speed rating if the speed capability of the vehicle is to be maintained.

Repairing Speed-Rated Tires

Repairing speed-rated tires is permitted and can affect their assigned speed rating as the chart illustrates:

Puncture Repair Limits			
Tire Brand	Speed Symbol	Tread Area	Sidewall Area
Michelin	through 'T'	1/4"	1/8"
BFGoodrich, Uniroyal	through 'T'	1/4"	not permitted
Michelin	H rating & higher	1/4"	not permitted
BFGoodrich, Uniroyal	H rating & higher	not permitted	not permitted

Note: If repair size exceeds above listed permissible dimensions, the tire's speed rating is voided and is considered non-rated.