

TSA's tips for taking care of your tyres

The Tyre Stewardship Australia purpose is to develop sustainable solutions for end-of-life tyres; key to this is the avoidance of tyres reaching end-of-life prematurely.

We can all do our bit to keep the tyres on our vehicles achieving their intended life-span; this helps the environment, safety and performance of the tyres and saves you money as used tyres are not frequently replaced.

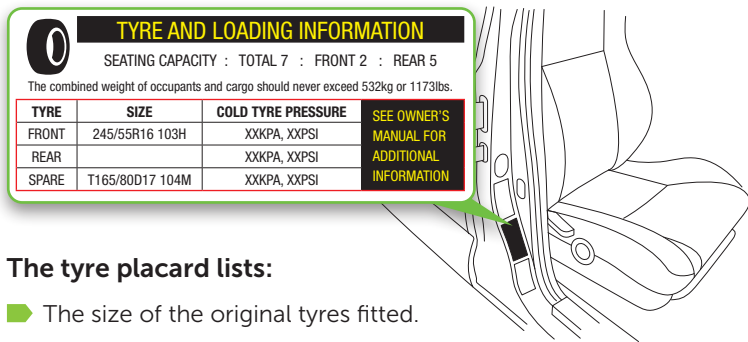


TSA TYRE TIP #1:

Tyre pressure

Check your tyre pressure monthly and before long road trips. Tyres lose pressure at a rate of approximately 1 pound per square inch (PSI) per month and increases as temperatures rise.

To find all information pertaining to your tyres, refer to the **tyre placard** located either inside the glove box lid, fuel filler flap or on the driver's door or opening. All cars built since 1973 have this placard or alternatively the information is also in the owner's handbook.



TYRE AND LOADING INFORMATION			
SEATING CAPACITY : TOTAL 7 : FRONT 2 : REAR 5			
The combined weight of occupants and cargo should never exceed 532kg or 1173lbs.			
TYRE	SIZE	COLD TYRE PRESSURE	SEE OWNER'S MANUAL FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
FRONT	245/55R16 103H	XXKPA, XXPSI	
REAR		XXKPA, XXPSI	
SPARE	T165/80D17 104M	XXKPA, XXPSI	

The tyre placard lists:

- The size of the original tyres fitted.
- Recommended inflation pressures.
- Their speed and load ratings.
- The original wheel specifications.
- Optional wheel and tyre specifications (where offered).

Get your pressure right

It is best to adhere to the recommended inflation pressures as both under and over inflation can affect how your tyre performs.

Under or over-inflation can cause uneven tyre wear, increased fuel consumption, heavy handling and steering and potentially tyre blow-outs.

How to check your pressure:

1. Buy a pressure gauge or use one at your local service station.
2. Check first thing in the morning or whenever your tyres are cool. They heat up as you drive, which can affect your reading.
3. Unscrew the valve cap on the tyre and place the gauge over the valve. A brief hissing sound is normal.
4. Read the pressure on the gauge. Tyre pressures are measured in Kilopascals (kPa) or in pounds per square Inch (PSI). [Conversion: 7kPa = 1 PSI]. Compare the reading with your tyre's recommended PSI. You can inflate your tyres to the max numbers shown on the placard. Note: An increase in tyre pressure may be required if you're carrying an increased load.
5. Adjust your pressure with a home compressor or fill the tyres at a local service station.
6. Re-check your pressure with the gauge and check against the manufacturer's specifications.
7. Replace the valve caps on each tyre to help seal air into the tyre and exclude dirt.

UNDER INFLATION



Excessive Shoulder Wear

OVER INFLATION



Excessive Inner Wear

PROPER INFLATION



Best Tread Wear



TSA TYRE TIP #2:

Tyre alignment

The front tyres require regular alignment. As alignments are measured in fractions of degrees, small things like driving over a pothole or bumping into a kerb can result in the misalignment of your tyres.

Tell-tale signs include trouble controlling the steering wheel, your car feels unstable and pulls to one side of the road, tyres screech when turning. Failure to carry out regular tyre alignments can result in excessive premature wear of not only your tyres but your suspension and steering.



TSA TYRE TIP #3:

Tyre rotation

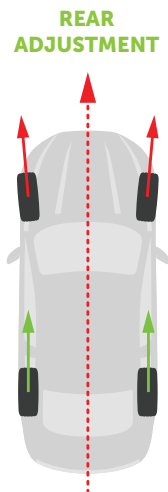
As each tyre wears differently (eg. on front-wheel-drive cars, front tyres wear twice as quick as rear ones) you should aim to rotate your tyres every 8,000 – 12,000km.

By doing so you ensure that your tyres wear more evenly across the full set and reach maximum tread life. This in turn provides balanced handling and traction, a more consistent performance and adds to the lifespan of your tyres. Note: Tyre rotation cannot correct wear problems due to incorrect inflation pressures.

Visit your local [TSA Accredited retailer](#) to talk about rotation.



Pre-alignment angles out of specification



Rear wheels measured and adjusted



Steering wheel leveled – rear wheels measured and adjusted



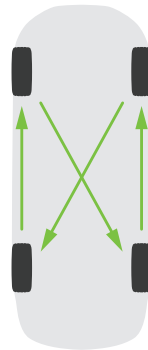
TSA TYRE TIP #4:

Tyre balance

Maintaining the tyre balance on your vehicle is critical to generating a long return on your tyre investment.

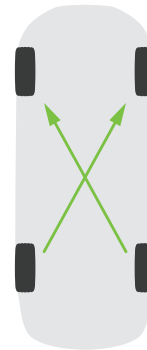
A tyre balance ensures the weight is evenly distributed. It can reduce vibration and tyre wear and provide you with greater control as your car will have a better hold onto the road due to optimum wheel balance. If tyres are not balanced you may need to replace not only the tyres but also shock absorbers, struts and steering and chassis components more regularly than your purse strings would like.

REARWARD CROSS



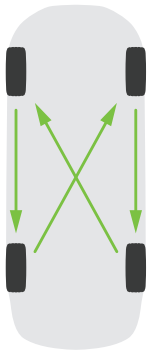
Rear and Four-wheel Drive

X-PATTERN



Rear, Front and Four-wheel Drive

FORWARD CROSS



Front-wheel Drive

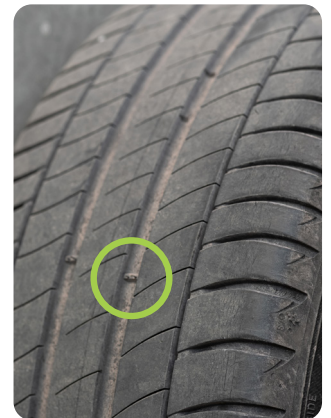


TSA TYRE TIP #5:

Tyre tread

It is important to regularly check the condition of your tyre's treads as it is one indicator of your vehicle's health.

When examining your tyre tread, look to see if bars of hard rubber, known as **tread wear bars**, are visible. If so, this indicates your tyre's tread has become worn and a new set of tyres may be



Finally, if it is time to upgrade your tyres, make two small gestures that in turn make a big difference:

1. Select tyre brands funding innovative initiatives for used tyres.
2. Select TSA accredited participating retailer.



Scan here for a complete list of TSA Accredited tyre brands and tyre retailers

Find all your choices at mytyresmychoice.com.au