

How Tire Smart Are You?

Did you know that **June 5 - 11th is National Tire Safety Week?** Just in time for summer road trips, make sure that your tires are up for the adventures that you have planned.



Claudia McClain

The Rubber Manufacturers Association has developed some helpful advice on how to master your basic tire maintenance in their 4-step program "Be Tire Smart - Play Your **P.A.R.T.**"

1. **P**ressure: Keeping tires properly inflated is a safety factor, but it can *also* increase your gas mileage.

TIRE AND LOADING INFORMATION			
LOADING CAPACITY: *TOTAL 4 - FRONT 2 - REAR 2			
TIRE	SIZE	COLD TIRE PRESSURE	SEE OWNER'S MANUAL FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
FRONT	P185/70R14	280KPA, 20PSI	
REAR	P185/70R14	280KPA, 20PSI	
SPARE	T125/70D15	420KPA, 30PSI	
The combined weight of occupants and cargo should never exceed XXX kg or XXX lb. *			

Look for the inflation pressure table in the owner's manual, or on your vehicle's door frame, glove box door or fuel door.

- Check inflation monthly and before long trips.
- Always check inflation pressure when the tires are cool. Even a short one-mile drive can create enough heat to distort the reading. Check tire pressure at home, then add the appropriate amount at the gas station. Never reduce inflation when tires are hot!
- Don't forget to check the spare!

2. **A**lignment: Misaligned wheels can cause uneven and rapid wear on the tread. Have your alignment checked periodically by a tire dealer, or whenever you feel the vehicle pull.

3. **R**otation: If no rotation period is specified in the owner's manual, aim to have your tires rotated approximately every 5,000 - 8,000 miles.

4. **T**read: Check your tire tread and replace when the tread is worn down to 2/32 of an inch. How much is 2/32? Use this easy method:



Place a penny in the tread groove upside down. If part of Lincoln's head is covered by the tread, your tires still have good tread. If you can see the whole head and hair, invest in a new tire.

Most newer tires have so-called 'wear bars' across the tread. When the top of the wear bar is flush with the tire tread, the tire is worn out and needs to be replaced.

Look for wear bars on your tire.

Did you know that there's an **Expiration Date** on tires?



Aside from usage and driving habits, tires can reach their expiration date due to the disintegration of the rubber. That's why lightly used tires on older cars or spare tires can become dangerous safety hazards if the rubber has become old and brittle (which can be hard to detect.)

To determine the age of the tire, check the DOT number on the side wall. The last 4 digits indicate the week and year the tire was built. The recommended age for tires varies between manufacturers, but tires should be replaced after 6 to 8 years even if they still have tread.



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Safety Express

Planning to Rent a Car this Summer?



Recently, we've received more inquiries than usual about rental cars. Does a personal auto policy extend to cover it? Or should one buy the rental company's insurance?

It's true that both your auto insurance and your credit card *may* extend to provide you with coverage for a rental car. But they can also leave you with serious coverage gaps. **That's why we generally advise our clients to purchase the rental car company's insurance.**

If you are renting a moving van, beware! Since a moving van does not qualify as a private passenger vehicle, there is no coverage for damage to the rented van under your family auto policy.

Read more on our blog at
<http://blog.autohomeboat.com>

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Check in for safety tips, money-saving ideas and free weekly gifts from ice cream to baseball tickets.

Free Gas and Chance To Win an iPad

Receive a **\$25 Costco Gas Card** when you make a Referral before 6/30/11 and have a chance to win an **Apple iPad 2**



Many Thanks for your Referrals

Do Yon Kim, Dana Gandy, Randy Pratt, Monica Banze, Meghan Soptich Pembroke, Rhonda Kaleiwahea, Geri Custer, Erick Scott, Gabby Urrea

Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Community Events

- **Flag Exchange:** Bring your worn flag to McClain and exchange it for a **free** new flag - June 6-10.
- **Flag Retirement Ceremony:** Monday evening, June 13th, 7:00pm at Mukilteo State Park.
- **Sorticulture Garden Art Festival** at Legion Memorial Park, June 10-12
- **AquaSox Season Opening Night**, June 22 at 7:05pm.

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