



## TYRE SAFETY MATTERS

# TYRE SAFETY IN 3 EASY STEPS



Tyres are what keep you going. It's crucial that you take care of them and know how to test for wear or under-inflation.

### Worn or underinflated tyres

- increase your stopping distance
- increase your risk of skidding or hydroplaning
- significantly reduce the lifespan of your tyres
- increase rolling resistance
- consume more fuel
- produce more CO<sub>2</sub> emissions



## Inflate

### Check your tyre pressure

#### Check your tyre pressure:

- when temperatures change drastically
- at least once a month
- before long journeys
- when carrying heavy loads

Maintaining correct tyre pressure is as important for driving as putting fuel in your car. Tyres naturally lose pressure over time, so you need to check and refill them regularly. You can find the correct tyre pressure for your vehicle in your operating manual.



## Measure

### Check your tread depth

#### Check your tread depth:

- with a dedicated tread gauge
- on all four tyres
- in each main groove
- in at least 2 points along the groove
- using the separate 4mm indicator on winter tyres

More tread means more grip. While the legal minimum tread depth in the EU is 1.6mm (about the width of a match), Firestone recommends replacing anything under 3mm - or 4mm for winter tyres.



## Evaluate

### Check for damage or irregular wear

#### Check regularly for:

- uneven wear on both sides of your tyres
- cuts, tears, cracks or bulges on the side wall
- impact damage, especially after driving on rough surfaces
- stones or other sharp objects lodged in the tyre
- damage to wheel rims

Poor wheel alignment, prolonged under or over-inflation and harsh road conditions can all cause damage that can compromise your tyres. Make sure to check your tyres regularly for uneven wear or damage.

## KNOW YOUR TYRE



Your tyres actually carry a lot of information around with them. The following tips will help you understand all the details.

### 1 Tyre Size

Code denoting your tyre's width (225mm), height (45% of the width) and rim diameter (17 inches).

### 2 Speed Symbol

Letter corresponding to your tyre's maximum speed (W = 270km/h). This should generally be higher than your vehicle's maximum speed.

### 3 Load Index

Code denoting the maximum weight your tyre's can carry at the speed designated by the speed symbol (91 = 615kg).

### 4 Production Date

The week and year your tyre was made (in this case, week 3 of 2011).

