



## TYRE SAFETY

Correct tyre pressures are vital for safe handling and optimum braking, optimum grip and long tyre life.

### YOU NEED GOOD TYRES TO DRIVE SAFELY.

They are your only contact with the road and affect the steering, braking and acceleration of your vehicle. Here you will find out about the legal requirements and the precautions you should take to ensure that the tyres on your vehicle are safe.

### WHAT YOUR TYRES DO

Your tyres, each with a contact patch on the road of about the size of a large footprint, have to provide ALL of the grip for:

Steering

Braking

Acceleration.

They also improve comfort whilst carrying the weight of the vehicle. If you look after them, they will work more reliably and last longer. Neglecting them could be expensive in the long run and could even cost you your life.

Every new car type tyre must meet European standards for load/speed performance and be marked on the sidewall with the letter E or the letter e.

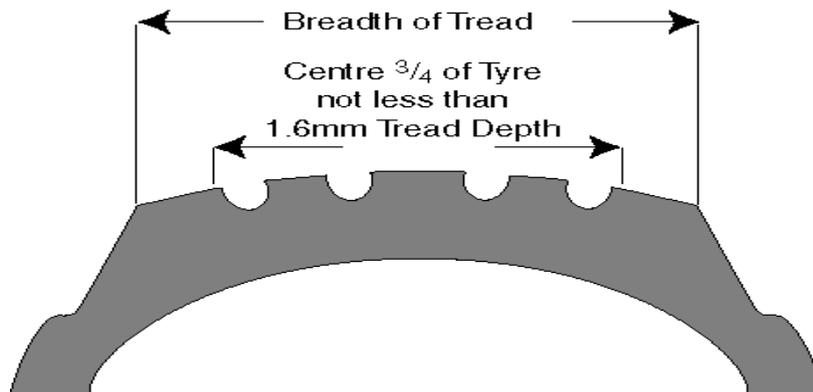
### TREAD DEPTH

The legal minimum tread depth of the main grooves of car and similar tyres in the United Kingdom is 1.6mm. This applies across the central three quarters of the breadth of tread and there should be visible tread around the entire outer circumference of the tyre. The side walls should be free from cuts or defects.

Most car type tyres have tread wear indicators, usually at least six small ribs across the bottom of the main tread grooves, and when the tread surface becomes level with these ribs the tyre is at the legal limit and must be replaced. **Simple and cheap gauges are also available to give an acceptable guide to tread depth.**

### THE 1.6MM MINIMUM LIMIT APPLIES TO:

Cars and passenger vehicles with up to 8 seated passengers - not including the driver  
Motor vehicles & light trailers (including caravans) up to 3500Kg gross vehicle weight.



### MIXING OF TYRES

Except in the case of temporary use spare tyres, it is illegal in the United Kingdom, and it is certainly dangerous, to mix radial ply and cross ply tyres on the same axle or to have radial ply tyres on the front axle and cross ply tyres on the rear axle. This applies to all two-axle motor vehicles whether front or rear wheel drive. The type of tyre is indicated on the sidewall markings. In the case of radial ply tyres, the letter 'R' is part of the tyre size marking as in the example below, and in addition the word 'Radial' may be shown on the sidewall.

175/65 R 14 82T

### TYRE PRESSURES

Low tyre pressures or overloading will cause increased fuel consumption, more air pollution, shorter tyre life and greater risk of tyre failure.

High tyre pressures may cause reduced comfort, less grip, greater risk of impact tyre damage and reduced stability in braking and cornering.

Pressures should be checked at least every two weeks and only when the tyres are cold. Even a short trip to the local garage will warm up the tyre and raise the pressure. Accurate and reliable gauges are not expensive and will soon pay back their cost.

Recommended pressures may vary according to load or speed. Look in the vehicle handbook, or consult your garage or tyre dealer.



## Your Vehicle Data

### Vehicle

Make \_\_\_\_\_

Model \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_

### Tyres

#### (Front)

Size \_\_\_\_\_

\* Pressure Normal \_\_\_\_\_

\* Pressure heavy load/high speed \_\_\_\_\_

#### Rear

#### (Rear)

Size \_\_\_\_\_

\* Pressure Normal \_\_\_\_\_

\* Pressure heavy load/high speed \_\_\_\_\_

\* See vehicle handbook or ask your garage or tyre dealer

### Equivalent Pressures

kPa	Bar	Lb/in <sup>2</sup> (psi)	kPa	Bar	Lb/in <sup>2</sup> (psi)
150	1.5	22.0	200	2.0	29.0
160	1.6	23.0	210	2.1	30.5
170	1.7	24.5	220	2.2	32.0
180	1.8	26.0	230	2.3	33.5
190	1.9	27.5	240	2.4	35.0

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