



be tire smart play your **PART**

PRESSURE • ALIGNMENT • ROTATION • TREAD

A consumer education program of the Rubber Manufacturers Association

Tire Care Fact Sheet

- ✓ Only 15 percent of drivers properly check their tire inflation pressure.
To properly check tire inflation pressure:
 - Check tire inflation pressure at least once a month
 - Use the correct inflation pressure recommended by the vehicle manufacturer, not the pressure listed on the tire sidewall
 - Check tires when they are cold or haven't been driven for at least three hours
- ✓ 46 percent of drivers *wrongly* believe that the correct inflation pressure is printed on the tire sidewall. Another 15 percent do not know where to find the correct pressure.
- ✓ 26 percent of drivers *wrongly* believe that the best time to check their tires is when they are warm after being driven for at least a few miles.
- ✓ Nearly 2 out of 3 drivers do not now how to tell if their tires are bald.
- ✓ 72 percent of drivers do not check the tire pressure in their spare tire.*
- ✓ 61 percent of motorists cite checking tire pressure as a top fuel saving tip.

Federal Government Statistics

- ✓ NHTSA estimates more than 23,000 tow away crashes were due to blow outs or flat tires. (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, August 2001)
- ✓ Under inflated tires are attributed to crashes that result in 660 fatalities and 33,000 injuries each year. (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, September 2004)
- ✓ 27 percent of passenger cars and 32 percent of light trucks have at least one significantly under inflated tire. (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration survey, August 2001)

The RMA sponsored survey was conducted by FrederickPolls to 1,000 drivers nationwide from February 6 - February 12, 2008 and has a margin of error of 3 percent.

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