

Tire Safety Tips



Check your tire pressure regularly

Tires tend to lose air over time - about 1 psi per month and 1 psi for every ten-degree drop in temperature. Use a tire gauge and check your tires at least once a month and before a long trip. Proper inflation pressures can be found in your owner's manual or on a sticker on the car (usually on the driver's doorjamb). Remember to check tire pressure only after the car has been sitting for several hours in order to ensure that the tires are cold. The friction of driving heats the tires and increases pressure, which can hide an under-inflated tire.



Check for tread depth

Check tread depth by placing the edge of a penny upside-down into the grooves of the tire's tread. If you can see all of Lincoln's head, it's time for a new set of tires.



Check for even wear

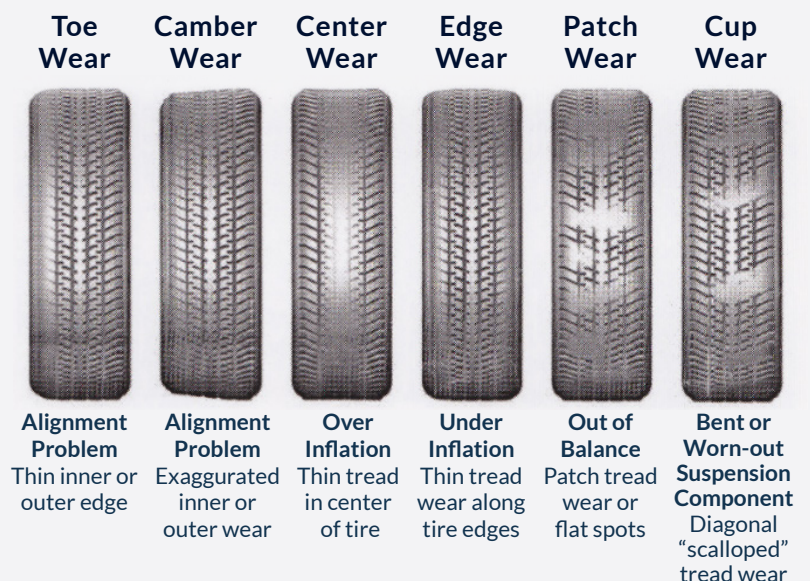
When you check tread depth, check both the inside and outside edge of the tires. Uneven tire wear is usually a sign that your car is out of alignment. Proper alignment optimizes handling and helps prevent premature tire wear.

Look for tire damage

When you check pressure, inspect the sides of the tires for nicks, bulges, cracks and cuts. Such damage often cannot be repaired and will require replacement of the tire.

Remove any stones, glass, foreign objects, etc. embedded in the tread to prevent further damage.

In addition, pay attention to the "feel" of your tires as you drive. A rough ride may indicate tire damage or excessive wear. You may need to have your tires examined by service professional.



Winter Driving Tips



Winterize your vehicle

Check all systems, fluid levels, antifreeze, washer fluid for windows, brakes, tires, and have your battery checked.



Know the weather before you travel

Plan accordingly leaving plenty of time for safe driving.



Slow down on the roads

There may be hidden ice patches. Snow covered roads impact breaking and steering abilities. Take extra precautions when driving on bridges and entrance/exit ramps.



Have a winter emergency kit

Keep it in the vehicle, including items such as: jumper cables, flashlight, shovel, basic tools, road triangles and/or flares, space blanket, warm coat/clothing and a first aid kit.



Remove snow and ice

Clear the windshield, lights and body of vehicle before driving.



Keep your fuel tank full.