

What can I do to check my **tyres are safe?**

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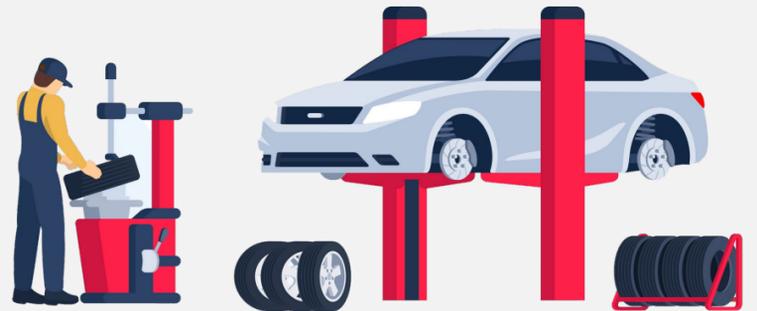
Tyre inflation pressure significantly affects vehicle steering, handling and braking. An incorrectly inflated tyre can increase vehicle fuel consumption and is likely to wear abnormally or more rapidly than normal. Inflation pressure should be checked a minimum of once a month and always before long journeys. Tyres should be at ambient temperature when the inflation pressure is checked, in order to get an accurate reading. Don't forget the spare. An accurate tyre pressure gauge is required.

01 Check your tyre pressure

02

Wheel alignment

It can be difficult to tell whilst driving if your vehicle's wheels are misaligned. However, wheel misalignment can alter vehicle handling, increase fuel consumption and cause abnormal, rapid tyre wear. If your tyres have impacted unyielding objects such as kerbs or potholes, or if you notice uneven wear, it is important to get the wheel alignment checked.



Check your tyre tread

03

Tyre tread depth affects the performance and safety of your vehicle in poor weather. In the UK, the minimum tread pattern depth required by Law is 1.6mm across the central $\frac{3}{4}$ of the tyre tread width. Regular checking of the tyre tread depth is simple to do and enables timely replacement of worn tyres and can help identify other potential issues such as misalignment and incorrect inflation pressure.

When not in use, tyres must be handled and stored with care. Unless fitted and inflated, tyres should not be stacked on top of each other for long periods. When not in use tyres should be kept in dry, cool, well ventilated conditions and protected from sunlight, ozone, flammable or hydrocarbon substances.

Handling & Storage **04**



05 Good driving habits

Although wear and tear is inevitable for a tyre in service, you can adapt your driving habits to make your tyres last as long as possible. Excessive braking, acceleration, stop/start and hard cornering will cause your tyres to wear much more quickly, smooth your driving out. Driving carefully over uneven surfaces, potholes and speed humps will help avoid tyre impact damage and potential wheel misalignment. Avoiding dirty areas of the road, gutters and ghost islands will reduce the likelihood of punctures.