

# HAVE YOU CHECKED YOUR VEHICLE TODAY



This Could Be You

## Rapid Lesson Sharing

**Event Type:** Vehicle Accident while Demobing from Fire

**Date:** August 21, 2018

**Location:** On Interstate I-70 near Frisco, Colorado

### *When You Rent a Car, Do You Remember to Check the Tires' Tread Wear?*

#### **Narrative**

A Public Information Officer trainee was traveling in a rental car from the Cabin Lake Fire to Denver for a demob flight the following day.

While driving on I-70 near Frisco, Colorado, she became caught in a severe storm with heavy rainfall.

Her vehicle began to hydroplane, went off the road, and overturned.

She received a broken right arm and left shoulder, was treated at a local hospital, and kept overnight. When she returns home, she will require surgery.



The State Trooper assigned to this rollover accident in which the driver received a broken arm and shoulder—that will require surgery—said that the tread levels on this rental car's rear tires were well below allowable limits.

#### **LESSONS**

- ❖ The State Trooper investigating this accident said that the tread levels on rental car's rear tires were well below the allowable limits.
- ❖ With all the mobilization that's going on around the West right now, there are surely a lot of vehicles being rented from various sources.
- ❖ We look for dents and dings when we pick up a rental vehicle, but rarely think to check for tire wear.

***This RLS was submitted by:***

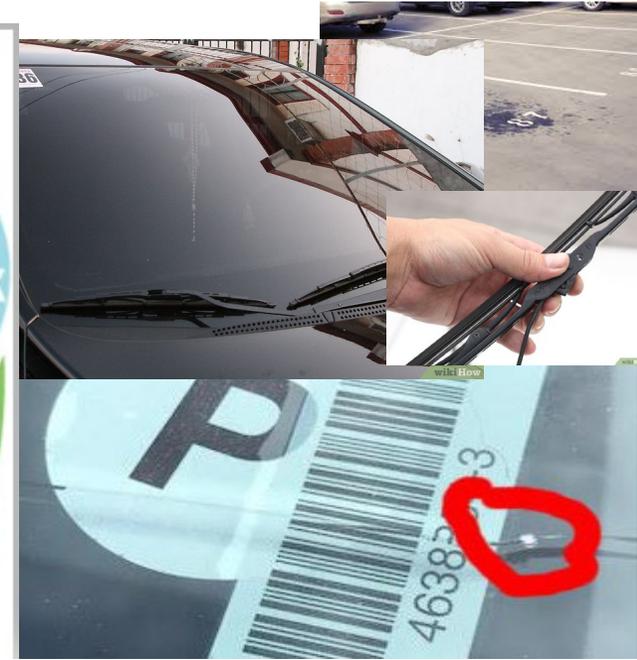
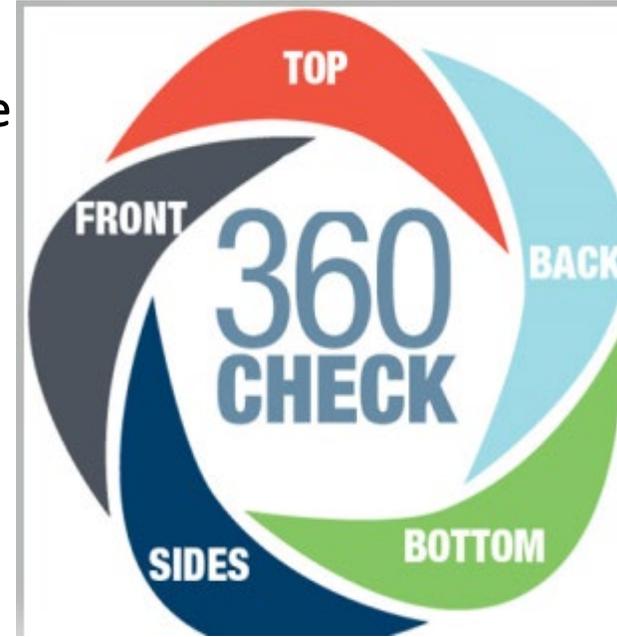
**Incident Overhead**

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When you rent a car, you should become familiar with all aspects of the vehicle before you leave the lot. Here are 10 things to check before you drive off: (Allstate)

1. Start the Car
2. Turn on the Air Conditioning or Heat
3. Look in the Glove Compartment
4. Check the Gas Gauge
5. Familiarize Yourself with Safety Features
6. Inspect the Exterior
7. Pop the Trunk
8. Try Out the Lights
9. Adjust the Seat and Mirrors
10. Investigate Entertainment and Navigation Systems



Do you perform a walk around?

Do you take a Before and After picture?



## Outside the Vehicle

- Inspect the headlights, windshield, side and rear windows, turn signals, brake lights and taillights.
- Visually inspect your tires for obvious signs of a problem and notice which direction the front wheels are pointed.
- Check under the vehicle for fluid leaks.
- Check roof and car body for damages.

# Rental Damage Evaluator Card

**DAMAGE EVALUATOR**

**Body, Wheel & Metal Bumper**  
Damage is:

- Any dent, scratch or scrape larger than the largest circle
- Holes and tears regardless of size
- **Note:** A dent, scratch or scrape smaller than the largest circle is wear and tear

**Burn** Damage is:

- Any hole or burn mark larger than the smallest circle

**Hail:**

- Any hail damage is damage

**Plastic Bumper** Damage is:

- Scratches and scuffs that cannot be completely covered by the Damage Evaluator
- Holes or tears regardless of size
- Dents larger than the largest circle
- Any misalignment
- **Note:** Scrapes to only the bottom edge of the bumper are not damage (i.e. parking block scrapes / scuffs)

**Glass** Damage is:

- A star or crack larger than the middle circle
- A star of any size between imaginary lines extending upward from the sides of the steering wheel

# Rental Damage Evaluator Card – Visual Ques

## Body, Scratch & Metal Bumpers Damage is:

- Any dent, scratch or scraper larger than the largest circle
- Hole or tears regardless
- **Note:** A dent, scratch or scrape smaller than the largest circle is wear and tear



## Plastic Bumpers Damage is:

- Scratches & scuffs that cannot be completely covered by the Damage Evaluator
- Holes or tears regardless of size
- Dents larger than the largest circle
- Any misalignment
- **NOTE:** Scrapes to only the bottom edge of the bumper are not damage (i.e. parking block scrapes/scuffs)

**Burn Damage is:** Any hole or burn mark larger than the smallest circle

**Hail:** Any hail damage is damage



## Glass Damage is:

- A start or crack larger than the middle circle
- A star of any size between imaginary line extending upward from side of the steering wheel



## Tire Wear Bars

It's important that the tires on your vehicle have adequate tread depth so they can maintain grip on the road in a variety of conditions. Using tires that still have enough tread is so important that tires are required to have tire wear bars-also called tire wear indicators or just wear bars-to make it easy for you to know if your tires need to be replaced just by looking at the tread.

### How Wear Bars Act as a Tread Wear Indicator

Tread depth is measured in 32nds of an inch. A typical tire starts out with a tread depth of around  $10/32''$ . If a tire's tread is worn down to  $2/32''$ , it could put you in a dangerous situation and must be replaced immediately. In fact,  $2/32''$  is the legal minimum tread depth in most states and any tires worn more than that are illegal. Because of this, Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) require that tires be manufactured with tire wear bars. Most tires have at least six or more tread wear bars.

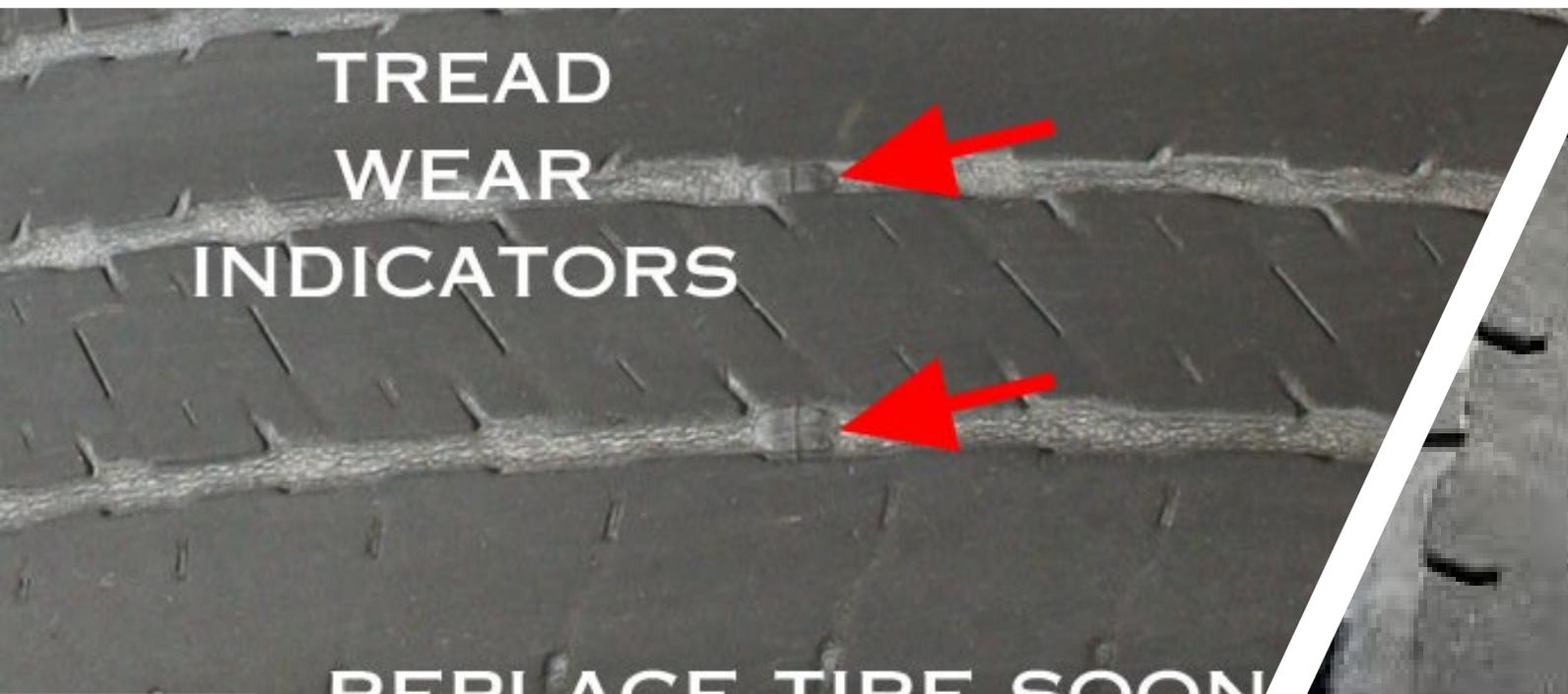
# TREAD WEAR INDICATORS



## Tire Wear Bars



- Look in the grooves between tire tread for raised patches of rubber, called *wear bars*. These 2/32-inch tall patches will help you identify a worn out tire. (In most states 3/32-inch is the minimum legal tread depth.)
- If tread is worn to a level where wear bars are flush with the tread it indicates that tread depth is 2/32-inch or less. Replace worn tires.



# What are your Tires telling You?

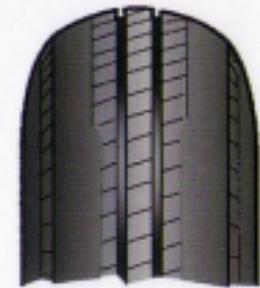
You should get into the habit of checking your tires before driving.



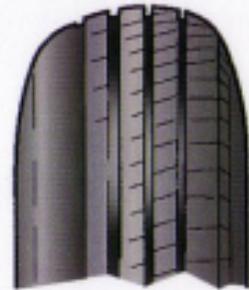
Wear Indicator



Overinflation



Underinflation



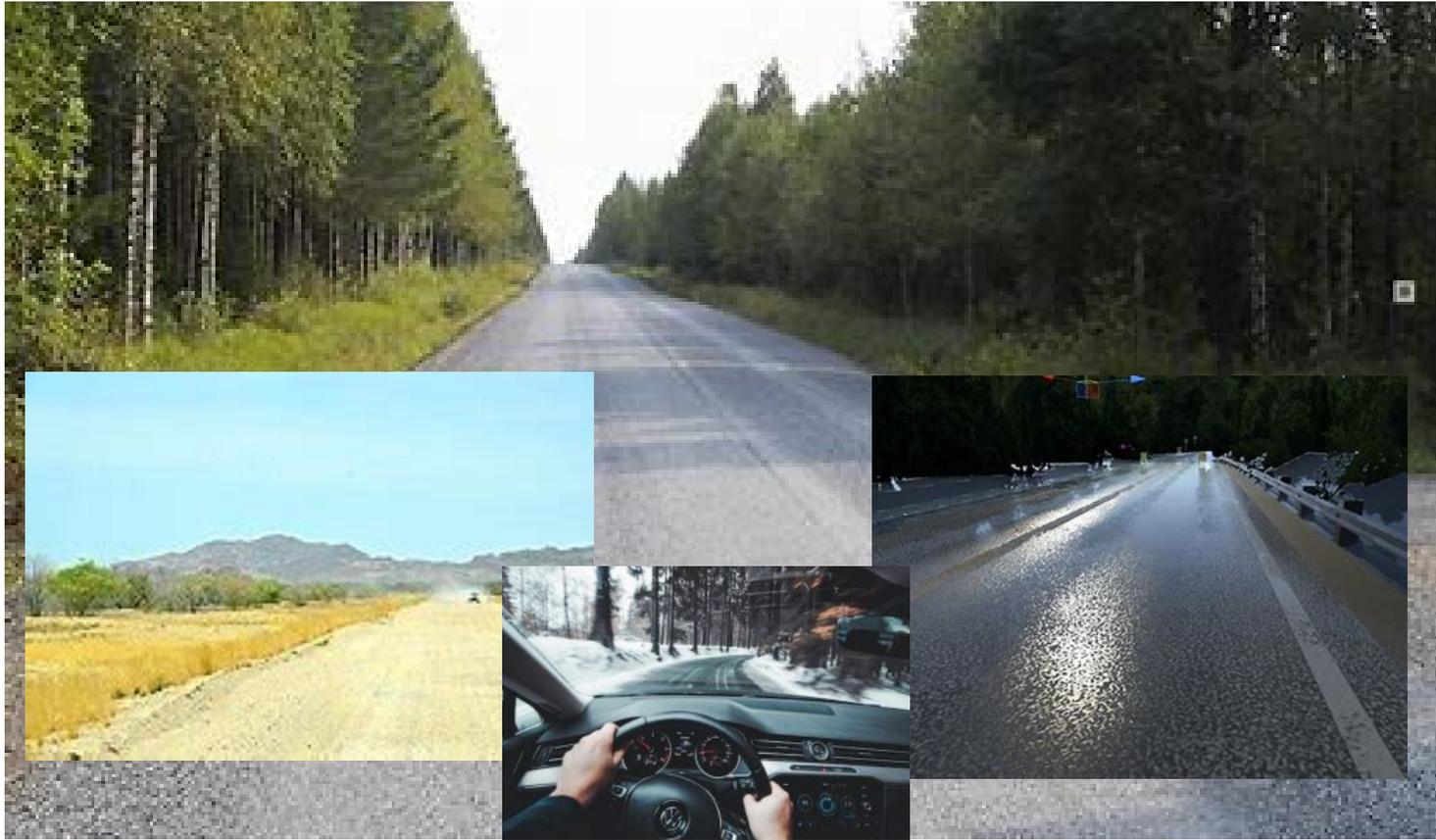
Camber Wear



Feathered Wear  
(Excessive Toe In or Out)



Spotty / Chopped Wear  
(Multiproblem)



# Poor Tires What Are the RISK!

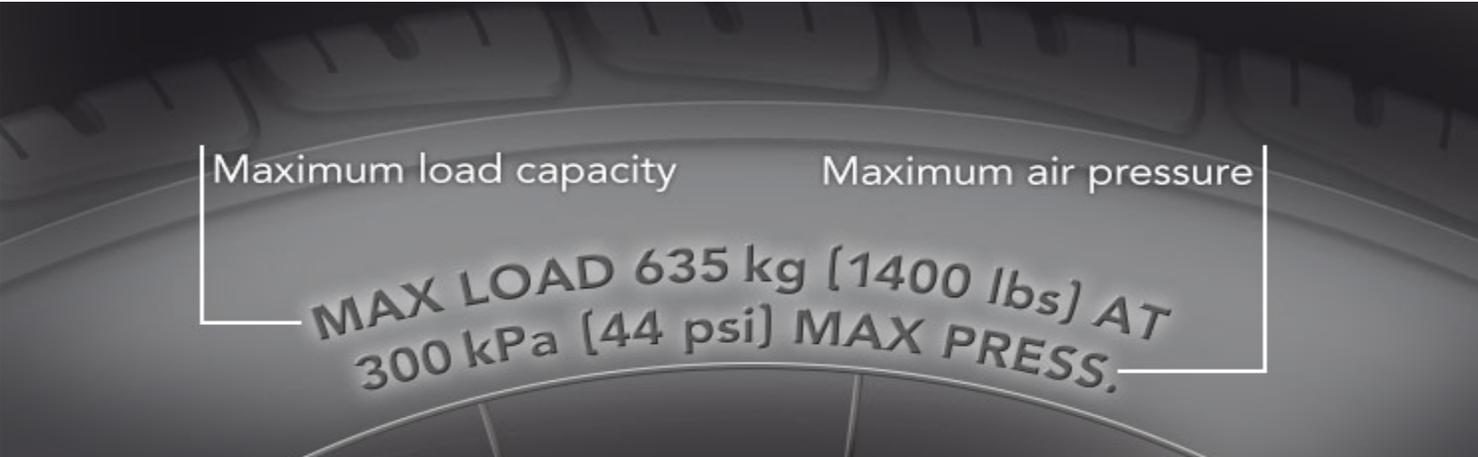
- Compromises braking and traction
- Loss of traction
- Leads to unsafe driving
- Reduces steering response
- Compromises braking and traction
- Leads to unsafe driving
- Reduces tire life
- Reduces tire life by 15 per cent or more
- Decreases fuel economy by as much as 15 per cent because underinflated tires make your engine work harder

# Where is my Tire Information

Somewhere on the [sidewall of your tire](#), just below the big, bold letters of the manufacturer, for example, you might have noticed the words ‘Max. Press. 35 PSI.’ That number tells you the maximum cold pressure needed for your tire to carry its maximum load.



***Along with its size codes and performance grades, your tire sidewall also displays the tire's maximum load limit and inflation pressure. You'll see these specs explicitly called out:***



The **maximum load capacity**, like the load index, identifies your tire's load carrying capacity when inflated to its maximum air pressure.

The **maximum air pressure** represents the tire's maximum operating inflation pressure.



## Max. Load Capacity & tire Speed Symbol

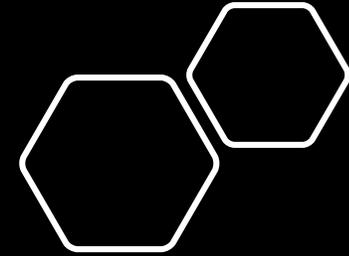
Number indicates the max. load that can be carried by the tire. Symbol indicates the max. Speed at which a tire is designed to be driven for extended periods of time.



**Maximum Load-Carrying Capacity Per Tire**

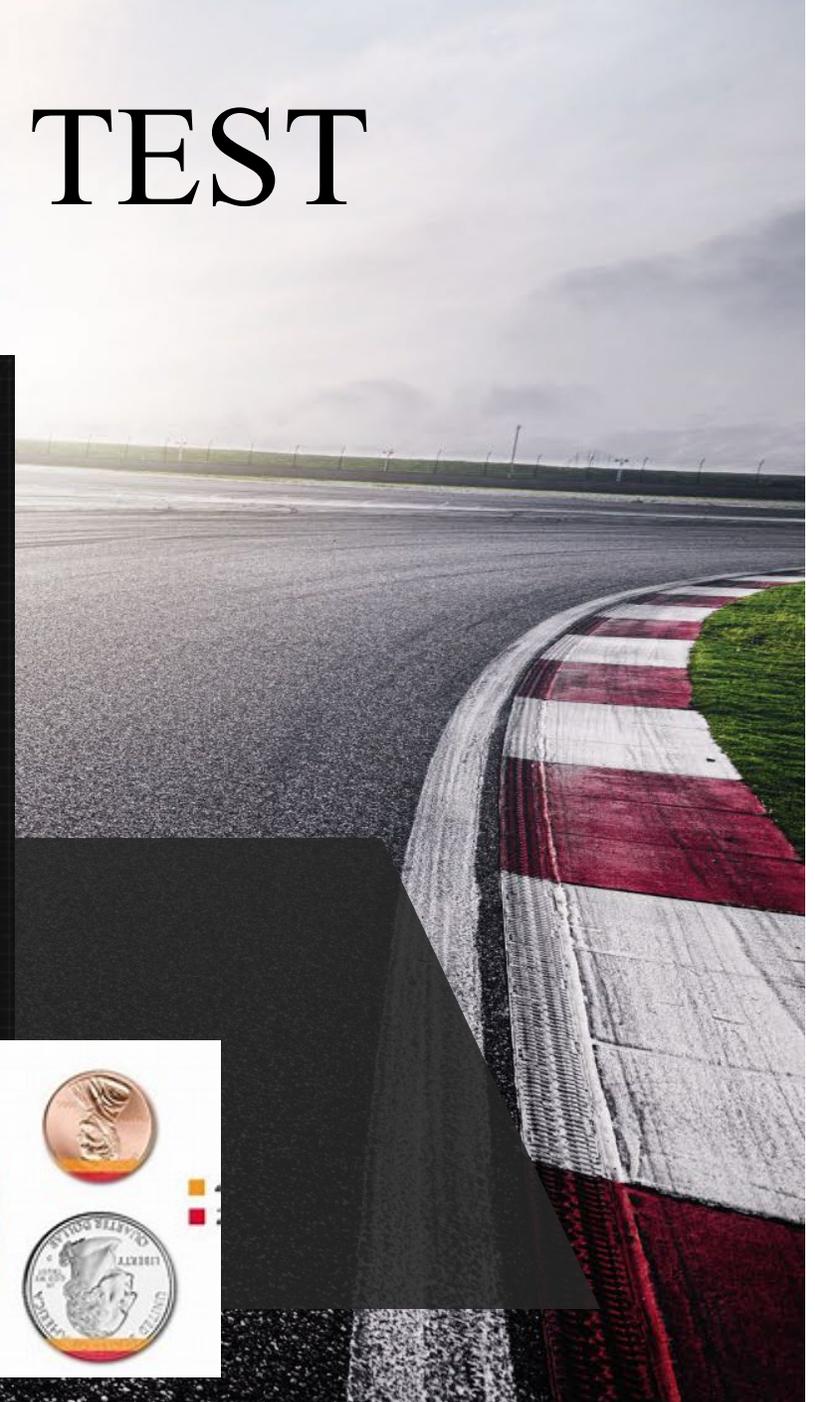
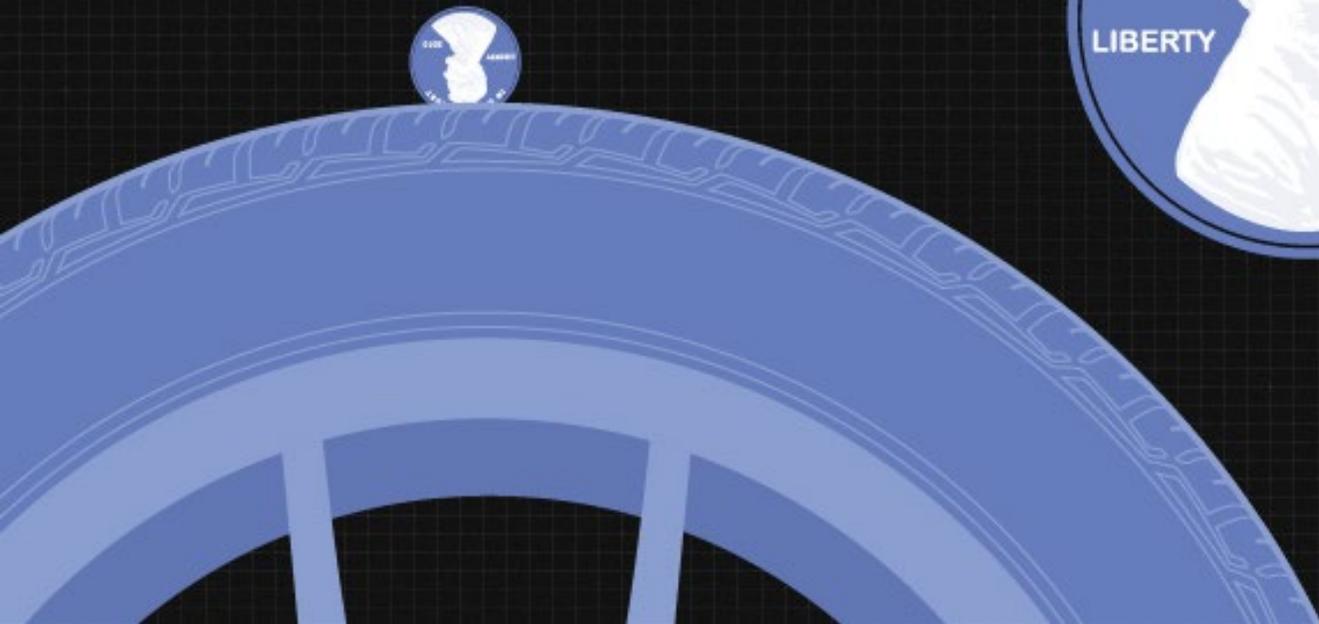
Load Index	Pounds	Kilograms	Load Index	Pounds	Kilograms
71	761	345	99	1709	775
72	783	355	100	1764	800
73	805	365	101	1819	825
74	827	375	102	1874	850
75	853	387	103	1929	875
76	882	400	104	1984	900
77	908	412	105	2039	925
78	937	425	106	2094	950
79	963	437	107	2149	975
80	992	450	108	2205	1000
81	1019	462	109	2271	1030
82	1047	475	110	2337	1060
83	1074	487	111	2409	1095
84	1102	500	112	2484	1129
85	1135	515	113	2561	1164
86	1168	530	114	2640	1200
87	1201	545	115	2721	1237
88	1235	560	116	2806	1275
89	1279	580	117	2892	1315
90	1323	600	118	2982	1355
91	1356	615	119	3074	1397
92	1389	630	120	3169	1440
93	1433	650	121	3267	1485
94	1477	670	122	3368	1531
95	1521	690	123	3472	1578
96	1565	710	124	3580	1627
97	1609	730	125	3690	1677
98	1653	750			

Speed Symbol	Maximum Speed (km/h)	Maximum Speed (mph)
Q	160	100
R	170	106
S	180	112
T	190	118
U	200	124
H	210	130
V*	Above 210	Above 130
V	240	149
W	270	168
Y	300	186
Z	Above 300	Above 186



# QUICK TIRE DEPTH TEST

↓ New tires recommended  
↓ New tires suggested soon



**What are you going to do?**