



Tyre Safety

More important than you might think

Did you know that in cases of road traffic accidents caused by vehicle faults, 40% of the time it comes down to the tyres?

Drivers who allow their tyre tread to wear down, or who don't maintain the correct inflation as well as carrying out thorough, regular checks are opening themselves up to a big risk.

Worn down tread is more likely to result in loss of control, skidding, aquaplaning or spinning, as well as likely to result in a blowout.

Drivers who are discovered to have lower than the legal minimum tread depth of 1.6mm may receive three penalty points and a fine of up to £2,500.

Any damage, punctures, tears and bulges are also dangerous and can cause blowouts.



How to be safe

Ensure your tyres are correctly inflated. You should be able to see during a regular vehicle check if the tyres look or feel wrong. Check for wear on the tyre—wear towards the centre suggests over-inflation, and wear towards the edges suggested under-inflation.

Check your tyre tread depth with a 20p coin. Press the coin into one of the grooves and if the outer band is still visible, your tread is likely to be under the legal minimum and you should have the tyres looked at.

Seek to replace your tyres as soon as you notice punctures, tears or bulges, and especially so if you can see any cord or exposed ply.

Tyres will last longer if you avoid heavy braking and aggressive cornering.

Never overload your vehicle, as this adds pressure onto your wheels and can cause misalignment.

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