

SERVICE BULLETIN

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TIRE INFLATION PRESSURES

Federal regulations make it mandatory for tire manufacturers to place permanent data on the side of all tires showing maximum load and inflation. The inflation pressure shown is the “maximum” allowable under any circumstance. This maximum pressure is the uppermost limit and it is necessary only when heavy loads are carried in order to achieve the full safe load carrying limit of the tire, or when sustained periods of high speed driving are expected.

The pressure listed on the tire sidewall is the **maximum pressure** to be used for the tire. It is **not** intended as a guide for normal inflation pressure. Always check the vehicle manufacturer’s information on inflation pressures before inflating any tire.

The proper cold inflation pressure continues to be that which is clearly stated in the owner’s manual and/or vehicle placard located on the driver’s side door or in the glove compartment. When high speed driving and/or driving with maximum load (as prescribed by the vehicle manufacturer), it is most important to follow the auto manufacturer’s recommendation for increasing tire pressure. However, do not ‘bleed’ or reduce pressure when the tires are hot from driving. Over-inflation produces a harsh ride, makes tires susceptible to impact damage and can result in faster than normal tread wear. Also skid, traction and cornering qualities are decreased. Under-inflation will cause excessive heat build-up, which will cause tire failure.