

Snow tires now becoming winter musts for traction

Snow tires have become a winter way of life for many motorists because of the extra traction they provide in snow and mud.

Following are some snow tire tips from The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company for safer driving, better handling and longer wear:

Match your snow tires with your front tires with respect to tire construction. A "mix" of different types of tires may cause car handling problems. For example, if you have radial tires on the front axle, you should put radial snow tires on the rear.

Maintain air pressure

Maintain proper air pressure. Contrary to popular belief, underinflated tires do not provide better traction.

Check tire pressure when temperatures fall. A tire loses about one pound of pressure for every 10-degree drop in temperature.

And check the air pressure when the tires are "cold," that is, before the car has been driven or at least one hour after it has been driven. This is because tire pressure increases somewhat when a car is driven.

Recommended inflation pressures take this increase into account. To find the correct pressure for your tires, look in your car owner's manual, on the glove box door or on the door-jamb. Never "bleed" air from hot tires.

Storing snow tires

Consider having your snow tires mounted on extra wheels so they can remain mounted during storage. Reduce air pressure 10 to 15 pounds during storage and store in a cool, dry place away from sunlight and electric motors.

Do not rotate studded tires to different wheel positions. Be sure to check your state's laws concerning the use of studded snow tires. Some states have posted limited periods during which snow tires may



PRESSURE CHECK — Even trained test drivers at Firestone Test Center in Fort Stockton, Tex., do not rely on eyesight to check tire pressure. Here, a driver uses a gauge to check his tires following a test run. Firestone urges motorists to check their inflation pressures at least once a month to help assure maximum tire life.

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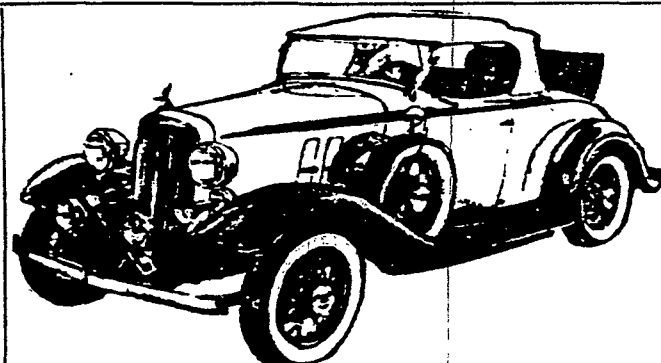
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be used, while a few others have banned them altogether. Many tire companies, including Firestone, manufacture so-called "studless" snow tires that provide traction comparable to studded tires on ice and snow.

Remove promptly

Remove snow tires

promptly in the spring. Driving on them during the warmer months can greatly reduce the useful life of snow tires.

Have snow tires mounted early in the fall and save yourself the aggravation of waiting in line to have them mounted at the first heavy snowfall.

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NIASE publishes a partial listing of the garages in which certified mechanics are employed. This national directory of about 10,000 establishments is available for \$1.95 from NIASE, 1825 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

For the car owner who is interested only in his own state's repair establishments, NIASE will send the list free. Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.



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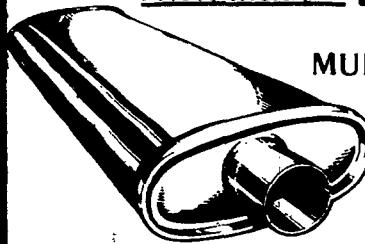
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