## Alignment

It is a good idea to have your wheel alignment checked at least once a year.

Symptoms of poor alignment commonly include:

- · steering pulling your car to one side
- your vehicle shuddering at high speeds
- excessive wear on the edges of your tyres.

Wheels should also be balanced. If they are out of balance, you may feel a pounding or shaking through the steering wheel or your seat. This pounding could shortern the life of suspension components, lead to uneven tyre wear (bald spots) and increase fuel consumption.

### Rotation

Front and back tyres usually wear differently, especially on front wheel drive vehicles. Your tyres will last longer if you rotate them regularly.

Rotate your tyres according to the vehicle manufacturer's recommendation, found in the owner's manual. You can also talk to your tyre professional to find out how – and how often – the tyres on your vehicle should be rotated. Normally, this is every 10 000km.

When mounting the wheels on your vehicle, make sure your wheel nuts are tightened to the manufacturer's specifications. The correct wheel nut tightness can be found in your owner's manual.

### Tread

As tyres wear out, traction is reduced. A tyre must be replaced when the tread has worn even with the tread wear indicator that runs across the grooves on the tyre tread, marking the minimum allowable tread depth. Replace your tyres before they reach the minimum depth.

New tyres should be the same size and have the same load capacity and speed rating as your car's original tyres, which will have this information printed on them. The size also appears on the tyre information label, which is generally located inside the driver's door, on the door frame.

To ensure proper vehicle handling, install the same type of tyre on all four wheels.

# To keep your family safe.

Tyres with deep cuts, cracks, blisters and bulges are dangerous and should be replaced. Tyres with the tread worn down to the same level as the tread wear indicator must be replaced immediately.

For further information visit the Department of Transport and Main Roads website at www.tmr.qld.gov.au/tyresmart

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#### Department of Transport and Main Roads



Pressure - Alignment - Rotation - Tread



## TyreSmart – play your P.A.R.T

It's up to everyone on Queensland roads to ensure their tyres are properly maintained as tyres are key to your vehicle's safety and handling abilities.

The health of your tyres is impacted by the kinds of roads you drive on, how often you drive, as well as the weather and unspected hazards.

Properly maintained tyres can help:

- reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas
- · reduce fuel consumption
- save money by extending the life of your tyres
- · improve vehicle handling and safety



Incorrect inflation is the number one enemy of a tyre.

### Pressure

Incorrect inflation is the number one enemy of a tyre and is a recipe for tyre failure. The tips below will help you keep your tyres at the proper inflation levels:

- 1. Tyre pressure should be measured with a good quality air-pressure gauge at least once a month, as you cannot judge your tyres' pressure just by looking at them.
- 2. Pressure should be measured when your tyres are cold, when the vehicle has been stationary for at least three hours, or has not driven more than 2km.
- 3. Find your vehicle's tyre information label that gives you the proper tyre inflation levels for your tyres. Normally, it is attached to the driver's side door, door rail, glove box or fuel door. If not, check your owner's manual.
- 4. The maximum tyre pressure marked on a tyre's side wall refers to the pressure required to carry the maximum load possible. It is not always the same as the manufacturer's recommended tyre pressure for your vehicle.

TYRE	E LOADI	IG INFO	RMATION
RIM S	IZE	16 X (	6 1/2 J
TYRE	SIZE	215 /	60 R16
	TYRE PI		RE (kPa)
	REAR:	210	(kPa)
MAXIMU OR A LO	ITTED TO THE M LOAD RATE AD INDEX OF 1 RATING CATE	IG NOT LES	S THAN 690 KG
			AL INFORMATION

Vehicle specific tyre information labels that give the proper inflation levels for your tyres

The following steps will help you inflate your tyres properly:

- 1. Measure tyre inflation pressure by removing the tyre's air valve cap and pressing the tyre gauge onto the valve to take a reading.
- 2. Add or release air to achieve the recommended pressure. If you overfill the tyre, release air by pushing on the metal stem in the centre of the valve before rechecking the pressure.
- 3. Replace the air valve cap and repeat with each tyre, including the spare.
- 4. If you need to drive more than 2km to an air pump, take a pressure reading before you leave home and record it. Once you arrive at the air pump, take a second reading. Fill to the recommended pressure level, adding the amount that was missing from the first reading.
- 5. An overinflated tyre connects just on the centre portion of the tread. This smaller contact area means reduced grip on the road, leading to a harsh ride, handling issues (such as steering and stopping problems) and increased wear on your tyres and suspension.
- 6. As well as measuring your tyre pressure once a month, you should also conduct a visual inspection regularly for damage and signs of excessive or uneven wear. Always check the spare tyre too!