

PestSure Safety Tips

INSURING THE FUTURE OF PEST CONTROL

A five-minute training Series for Pest Management Professionals.

Tire Care for Safety

There are several aspects of vehicle tire care that relate to your personal safety. In addition to knowing how to control your vehicle in the event of a flat tire, you also place yourself at risk of being hit by a vehicle when repairing the flat. As you repair your flat, you are also a roadside attraction that could cause other motorists to slow unexpectedly and be involved in a collision as a result of gawking. In this safety tip we will discuss the ways to ensure that your tires are in good working condition each time you drive your vehicle. The key focus is to avoid having a flat at all.

TIRE PRESSURE

Check your tires regularly using a proper gauge to measure psi. A visual check should be done each time you enter the vehicle. The psi should be checked with a gauge at least once a week during your regular vehicle inspection process. Tire pressure can be greatly affected by the air temperature. The pounds per square inch (psi) listed on the tire sidewall is the maximum psi. Check your vehicle owner's manual for the recommended cold inflation level and ideal running pressure.

VEHICLE ALIGNMENT AND TIRE BALANCING

Tire balancing is done once the tires have been mounted on the wheels. A balanced tire will wear longer, handle better, and wear evenly. Tire balance should be checked periodically or if you notice any uneven wear or any pull or wobble when driving. Your vehicle can become out of alignment from any hard jolt to the front end such as hitting rough tracks, potholes, or curbs. A misaligned vehicle can be more difficult to control and will wear your tires unevenly.



TIRE TREADS AND SIDEWALLS

A visual inspection of your tires should include not only the air pressure but also the tread and sidewalls. Check your sidewalls for any cuts, bulges or gouges. Check your tread for uneven wear, bald spots, and tread life. Spotting these problems pre-trip could alleviate the need to repair a flat on the dangerous roadside.

YOUR DRIVING HABITS

Aggressive driving is not only unsafe and costly on your fuel budget; it also takes its toll on your vehicle.

Specifically, your tires will wear out faster with rapid starts, sudden stops, hard cornering and high speeds.