

# F or Y our D riving



## Heat is a Tire's Worst Enemy

Debris littering the highways causes over 25,000 accidents and at least 100 deaths each year in the United States and Canada. According to American Automobile Association blown tire pieces are the number one road debris.

Most tire related truck accidents are caused by improper tire inflation. These accidents are avoidable. Drivers need to maintain the proper inflation for a given tire size and load. It is not the tire, but the air inside the tire that carries the weight of the vehicle, absorbs shock and keeps the tire in its proper shape so it can perform as designed. This is the single most critical factor for getting the safest and longest life out of tires.

Practicing the following tips will help to extend tire life.

- Tire pressure should only be checked when a tire is cold, before a vehicle is driven.
- Tire pressure should be checked regularly, as often as once per week with a properly calibrated tire gauge.
- Rubbing your hand along the tread and sidewalls to feel for problems like flat spots, cuts, shoulder wear, bulges, and sidewall damage, is a good way to check for defects.
- Tire alignment should be checked on a regular basis.
- Drivers should stop immediately once a tire problem is detected.
- Tires driven with improper air pressure will eventually come apart, and the results can be serious.

***Ensuring your tires are properly inflated may save your life and the lives of those traveling beside you.***

Produced by the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries

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