

# What You Should Know About Your Tires

3. Drive carefully on roads with potholes, deep gorges or ridges. The impact from driving through or over such obstacles can damage your tires. After such impact, please inspect your tires or have them inspected by your authorized VW dealer. A damaged tire should be replaced as soon as possible. Tire damage can cause tire failure and loss of vehicle control.
4. Inspect your tires every 2,000 miles for damage and wear. Damage to tires is not always easy to see. If you believe that a tire may have been damaged, replace it as soon as possible. Tire damage can cause tire failure and loss of vehicle control.
5. All tires are designed for certain purposes. The low aspect ratio, ultra high performance tires originally installed on your VW were intended for maximum dry and wet road performance and handling. **THEY ARE NOT SUITED FOR USAGE ON ICE OR SNOW.** Install **All Season** if you intend to drive your VW in ice and snow. **All Season** tires must be installed on all 4 wheels. Inflate **All Season** tires 3 psi above the inflation pressure listed above, but do not exceed the tire's Maximum Cold Inflation pressure shown on the sidewall of the winter tire you chose to install.

Please remember that tires and their use and maintenance are important to your safe and enjoyable driving experience. VW's low aspect ratio, ultra high performance original equipment tires have been thoroughly tested and have been selected specifically for your car for their superb performance and excellent road feel and handling under a variety of driving conditions. They showcase and enhance the technology built into your VW. We hope that the information which we have provided will help you continue to enjoy driving your vehicle under normal as well as less favorable road and weather conditions.

**See your Owner's Manual for additional information.**



## Introduction

Tire manufacturers offer a great variety of tires for use on motor vehicles. Tires differ in size, tread pattern and depth, rubber compound, wear, construction and performance under different weather and road conditions.

Your Volkswagen is factory equipped with tires which offer optimum handling, stability and high-speed performance under normal driving conditions. The use of tires and/or wheels which have not been approved for the vehicle by VW can be detrimental to vehicle safety.

**High Performance Tires** are wide tread tires with height/width ratios of 60 or less and are speed rated at 130 mph or more. The height/width ratio is calculated by relating the nominal section height of the tire projecting beyond the rim to the nominal section width of the tire and is expressed as a percentage. For example, a tire with a height of 60 mm and a tread width of 120 mm is rated at 50.

Regular Performance Tires are tires with a height/width ratio greater than 60 and a speed rating of 130 mph or less.

**All Season Tires** are performance tires advertised by the tire manufacturer as suitable for all weather use or with special mud and snow (M&S) capability. If you install **All Season Tires**, make sure you observe the speed limitations for which the tires are rated.

## Tire Pressure

Tire inflation pressures are listed on the label affixed to the inside of the fuel tank flap door, trunk or glove box door.

Always check tire pressure when the tires are cold. Cold tire inflation pressure applies to a vehicle which has been standing for at least three hours or driven for less than one mile.

When the tires are warm, the pressure will be higher. Do not reduce the pressure of warm tires.

Use a tire pressure gauge that you know to be accurate when checking inflation. Do not exceed the maximum tire inflation pressure listed on the tire's sidewall.

Important information about the special tires with which your VW is factory equipped.

### **WARNING:**

**The use of wheels and bolts which do not meet Volkswagen's specifications will affect the safe operation of your Volkswagen and may cause an accident or injury. Never mix tires of different size or construction, such as steel-belted radial tires with bias ply tires. Mismatching tires will adversely affect performance and can lead to loss of control.**

Your VW may be equipped with specially designed low aspect ratio, ultra high performance tires which enhance the handling, steering accuracy, braking and all-around performance of the VW under a variety of driving conditions.

A small number of VW owners have reported that they noticed "bubbles", "bulges" or "blisters" on the sidewall of their high performance tires. The visible presence of such "blisters" indicates that the webbing inside the sidewall of the tire was damaged and, over time, this could cause air to leak out. Our investigation of these incidents has shown that such webbing damage is typically caused by impact with a curb, or by driving inadvertently through potholes or over improperly constructed or ill-maintained roads or highways. Such damage can lead to loss of air and under-inflation which could eventually cause tire failure. Driving on damaged tires is dangerous. A damaged tire can suddenly fail and this may cause loss of control of the vehicle.

### **WARNING:**

- **Incorrect tire pressures cause increased tire wear and adversely affect road holding of the vehicle, leading to possible loss of control and personal injury.**
- **Incorrect tire pressures can also lead to sudden tire deflation or failure, possibly resulting in an accident or personal injury.**

## What You Can Do To Avoid Tire Damage

To assist you in avoiding impact damage to the tires of your VW, we ask that you exercise care in observing the following precautions:

1. Maintain the inflation pressure of your tires as follows (This information is also listed on a label inside the fuel filler door of your VW).
2. Check your tire pressure at 2,000-mile intervals or at more frequent intervals that you believe necessary for maintaining proper inflation pressure.