

Driver Tyre Health Cheat Sheet (India) – 1 Pager

A quick, practical guide for Indian drivers to keep tyres safe, efficient and long-lasting.

1. Ideal Tyre Pressure (PSI)

- **Check weekly** or before long trips.
- **Car (Hatch/Sedan):** 30–35 PSI (front/rear as per vehicle manual).
- **SUV/MUV:** 32–40 PSI.
- **Commercial/LCV:** 45–80 PSI (depending on load).
- **Cold Tyre Rule:** Always check pressure when tyres are cool.

Under-inflation signs: Heavy steering, poor mileage, tyre edges wearing out.

Over-inflation signs: Bumpy ride, centre tread wear.

2. Tread Depth & Grip

- **Minimum legal limit:** 1.6 mm (India).
 - **Coin Test:** Insert a ₹1 coin—if the white band is fully visible, tread is low.
 - **Wet Road Safety:** Low tread = higher skid & hydroplaning risk.
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3. Tyre Ageing Rules

- **Replace every 5 years**, even if tread looks fine.
 - **Check DOT Code:** Last 4 digits show manufacturing week & year (e.g., 2319 = *Week 23 of 2019*).
 - Avoid tyres older than **6 years**.
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4. Rotation, Balancing, Alignment

- **Rotate:** Every 8,000–10,000 km.
 - **Wheel Balancing:** Every 6 months or at vibration above 60–80 km/h.
 - **Alignment:** After pothole impact, uneven wear, or pulling to one side.
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5. Common Indian Road Hazards

- Potholes → Sidewall damage, rim bends.
- High-speed bumps → Uneven stress, tyre bulges.

- Gravel & broken roads → Cuts, punctures.
- Extreme heat → Higher pressure & blowout risk.

Quick Tip: Inspect tyres after monsoons due to increased road debris.

6. Tyre Damage – What to Watch For

- Bulges / bubbles
- Sidewall cuts
- Nail punctures near sidewall (not repairable)
- Cracks from ageing
- Uneven centre/edge wear

Rule: If damage is on sidewall → **Do NOT repair. Replace immediately.**

7. Safe Driving Practices

- Avoid sudden braking/acceleration.
 - Slow down on rough roads.
 - Do not overload vehicle.
 - Maintain recommended PSI for mileage & tyre life.
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8. Emergency Kit Essentials

- Portable tyre inflator
 - Tyre pressure gauge
 - Tubeless puncture kit
 - Jack + wheel spanner
 - Spare tyre (check pressure monthly)
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9. For Fleet & Commercial Drivers

- Track kilometres for scheduled rotation.
 - Use TPMS (Tyre Pressure Monitoring System) if possible.
 - Maintain a weekly tyre checklist.
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Stay Safe. Save Fuel. Protect Your Tyres.