

Add Tires to Your Memorial Day Check List

The experts at Giti Tire, which markets GT Radial tires in North America, say heat is enemy #1 for tires.

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/EINPresswire.com/ -- Going through your Memorial Day check list? Suntan lotion . . . check. Clean the cooler . . . check. The experts at GT Radial suggest you add one more item to the list . . . your tires.

“Without question your tires need to be on your summer travel check list,” said David Shelton with Giti Tire (USA) Ltd., which markets and sells GT Radial tires in North America. “Making sure your tires are properly inflated is always important, but is especially critical for summer travel because heat is enemy number one for tires.”

Shelton said underinflated tires lead to increased heat buildup; this can cause a tire to fail, or at the very least, not perform as well and wear out faster.

“Underinflated tires also increase fuel consumption,” Shelton noted. “With gas prices on the rise, it doesn’t make sense to unnecessarily waste money on gas.”

He said overinflated tires can also cause problems in terms of reduced wet performance, reduced shock absorption, suspension wear and vulnerability to cutting and curb impacts.

Shelton said today’s tires such as the [GT Radial MAXTOUR All Season](#) are “technological marvels” that provide outstanding mileage (60,000 mile limited tread wear warranty), dependable traction, and a quiet, comfortable ride. However, they don’t perform as designed if they are not operated with the correct air inflation pressure.

Shelton advises using a good quality air pressure gauge and checking your tires “cold” – before you’ve driven or at least three hours after you’ve driven. Compare the measured psi (pounds per square inch) to the recommended tire pressure found on the sticker (door placard) inside the driver’s door, or in your vehicle’s owner’s manual. Do not compare to the psi on your tire’s sidewall, which is the maximum amount for your tires, not the optimum. Also, don’t forget to check the air pressure in your spare tire.

However, many vehicles (all new passenger cars and light trucks since 2008 in the USA) have TPMS, or a Tire Pressure Monitoring System, to inform the driver when a tire is significantly underinflated. Those with the “direct” system can monitor the pressure on their dash for each tire by just pushing the correct button. If the vehicle has a tire that is significantly below the desired pressure, a warning light



The GT Radial MAXTOUR All Season has a 60,000 mile limited tread wear warranty

will appear on the dash that signals the driver of the issue. Many systems do not monitor the spare, so please be sure to remember to have its pressure checked!

In addition to air pressure, Shelton recommends checking for tire wear and damage. Most tires have Tread Wear Indicators (TWI), raised rubber bars located in the tread grooves. These bars of hard rubber are normally not easily seen, but appear across treads that have been worn down to 2/32nds of an inch of the surface of the tire (the legal limit in most states). If these indicators appear in two or three different places, replace the tire. To ensure better wet grip, it is best to replace your tires before they reach the wear bars.

Also check your tires for any abnormalities, Shelton advises. For instance, if you see a bulge or bubble on the sidewall, you could have a serious problem and need to see your tire dealer immediately.

“Being stuck on the side of the road, or even worse, is the last thing you want on the Memorial Day weekend,” Shelton said. “Please add tires to your check list before hitting the road. It is best if one takes the time for a quick inspection of their tires before every trip whether to the grocery store, or across the state, or country.”

Safe travels!

Visit the [GT Radial website](#) for more tire maintenance tips.

Also, this is National Tire Safety Week, a consumer education campaign on proper tire care and maintenance by the U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association (USTMA). Giti Tire has a highly-advanced passenger/light truck manufacturing plant in South Carolina and is a member of USTMA.

About Giti Tire (pronounced “G-T” tire)

One of the largest tire companies in the world, Giti Tire Group, (headquartered in Singapore) has been in the tire business since 1951. Giti Tire operates 8 manufacturing plants and produces a broad range of tire products, serving major original equipment vehicle manufacturers, auto-service outlets, tire dealers and consumers in more than 130 countries worldwide.

Giti Tire (USA) Ltd., based in Rancho Cucamonga, California, is the sales, marketing, and distribution company for North America. It markets and sells a family of brands: GT Radial, Primewell, and Dextero tires for high performance vehicles, passenger, SUV, light truck, and medium trucks through national retailers, independent retailers and distributors across the United States and Canada. For more information, please visit www.gitiusa.com.

John Taylor
Giti Tire (USA) Ltd.
6154773099
[email us here](#)

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