

## TIRES

As this busy travel season gets underway, it's time to consider tires. Many of us travel with our coaches heavily loaded and at high speeds, so it is vital that the tires are suited to the coach and in safe operating condition.

Your motor home tires, aside from their importance in the proper handling and safety of the vehicle, represent a sizable financial investment: two good reasons to ensure they are properly maintained.

Proper tire care begins with the vehicle certification label located in the driver's door area. This label contains important information, including manufacturing date, GVWR limits, rim and tire size and inflation pressures, serial and model number, VIN number, type of vehicle, and color specifications. Never destroy or remove this label.

Several key points of information concerning your motor home tires are contained on the label.

1. Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR): The total permissible weight of the vehicle, including driver, passengers and the vehicle itself with all options plus the load it is carrying, including all liquids (given in pounds and kilograms).

2. Gross Axle Weight Rating (GAWR) – Front: The total permissible weight allowed for the front axle (listed in pounds and kilograms).

3. Gross Axle Weight Rating (GAWR) – Rear: The total permissible weight allowed for the rear axle (listed in pounds and kilograms).

4. Suitable Tire Choice: Tire recommended to meet handling and safety requirements. When replacing any tire on your vehicle, always replace with a tire that meets or exceeds these specifications.

5. Suitable Rim Choice – Front/Rear: Wheel rim recommendation to meet handling and safety requirements. When replacing a rim, always replace with one that meets these specifications.

MANUFACTURED BY		MONTH AND YEAR OF MANUFACTURE <u>1/98</u>	
<b>WINNEBAGO</b> INDUSTRIES		GVWR <u>1</u> LB <u>1</u> KG	
GAWR:		SUITABLE TIRE AND RIM CHOICE	COLD INFLATION PRESSURE
FRT <u>2</u> LB <u>2</u> KG	TIRE <u>4</u>	RIM <u>5</u>	PSI <u>6</u> KPA <u>6</u>
RR <u>3</u> LB <u>3</u> KG	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	PSI <u>6</u> KPA <u>6</u>
THIS VEHICLE CONFORMS TO ALL APPLICABLE FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARDS IN EFFECT ON THE DATE OF MANUFACTURE SHOWN ABOVE.			
SERIAL NO. <u>SAMPLE</u>	VIN <u>SAMPLE</u>		
TYPE <u>SAMPLE</u>	MODEL <u>SAMPLE</u>	COLOR <u>SAMPLE</u>	

### VEHICLE CERTIFICATION LABEL

6. Cold Inflation Pressure – Front/Rear: Inflation pressure recommended (while cold) for tires originally equipped on your vehicle. These pressure levels must be maintained to assure proper handling, safety and fuel economy.

Tire inflation pressure should be checked monthly, at the beginning of each trip, and daily during vehicle use. When checking tire pressure, use a double-headed inflation gauge designed to measure up to 120 psi in 2 psi increments.

Tire pressure should only be checked when the tire is cold. Friction caused by tires rolling on the road surface generates heat which is transferred through a tire warming the air held in the tire. The resulting expansion of the air causes a corollary increase of pressure within the tire. A pressure reading taken from a warm tire will indicate a "false" pressure which could lead to a dangerous under-inflation condition.

Premature wear is a common culprit of tire degradation. There are four practices that you can follow to prevent this problem:

1. Wheel alignment
2. Tire rotation
3. Inspection
4. Proper tire blocking

Proper wheel alignment can mean the difference between a full service life of a tire or an early trip to the tire store. Wheel alignment is the angular relationship between

the vehicle's wheels, suspension and the ground. The tires on a properly aligned vehicle roll along with minimal drag. While a poorly aligned vehicle's tires are quickly damaged by the dragging, cupping, scuffing and slipping action indicative of misalignment.

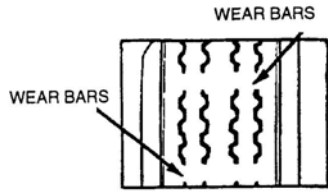
Every motor home manufactured by Winnebago Industries is aligned prior to leaving the factory. Once the vehicle has been retailed and the owner has loaded his belongings, it is recommended that the vehicle be realigned. The additional weight of personal belongings, water, LP, etc., can affect the relationships between the front wheels, suspension and the ground. In effect, altering the alignment.

**NOTE: Front wheel alignment is a maintenance function and is not covered by the new vehicle warranty.**

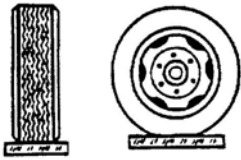
Front wheel alignment should be checked by an alignment specialist whenever abnormal tire wear is noted or at any time a degradation of ride or handling is perceived.

Regular tire rotation promotes uniform wear between all tires, thereby ensuring maximum tire life. Consult your vehicle chassis owner's manual for the recommended rotation method and frequency.

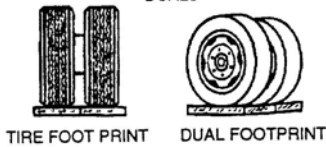
The third practice of preventing tire wear is frequent visual inspection. By inspecting the tires



**CORRECT METHOD**  
SINGLES



DUALS



TIRE FOOT PRINT

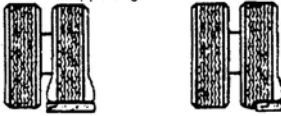
DUAL FOOTPRINT



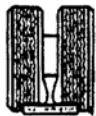
**INCORRECT METHOD**



Only a portion of the tire is supporting the full load.



One tire or a portion of one tire is supporting the full load.



Portion of the two tires supporting the full load.

each time the pressure is checked, you will catch early signs of wear and tire service professional can correct the condition before more serious damage occurs.

Improper tire blocking for either vehicle leveling or storage can cause inadvertent tire damage. When a tire is supported on a block, it is imperative that the tire is fully supported so the weight load on the tire is evenly distributed across the block.

Even with the best care and maintenance tires will eventually reach the end of their service life and will have to be replaced. There are several conditions which would necessitate tire replacement:

- Bulges
- Cuts
- Irregular or excessive tread wear
- Tread worn to 2/32" depth in two or more adjacent grooves
- Exposure of tread wear bars or indicators

If you suspect any of the above-mentioned conditions exist, contact your tire service professional for an assessment.

Tires that have been slightly damaged, such as a nail puncture,

may be repaired by a tire service professional. Provided that punctures are 1/4" or less in diameter and are not located in the sidewall of the tire, punctures should be permanently repaired with a combination patch and plug. The use of only a plug or the use of a tube in a tubeless tire are not suitable repairs.

**CAUTION: Aerosol inflaters are not intended to permanently repair a tire. Many aerosol inflaters contain highly flammable substances such as propane or butane. The presence of these materials in a tire can pose a hazard to any person servicing such a tire. You MUST inform your tire service professional of the presence of an aerosol inflater prior to service of the tire.**

Finally, when it is time to replace your tires, always use a tire of the same size, type and rating.

A little care and maintenance for your tire now will help to ensure a summer of happy travels.