



### Tire's TLC

Each year Canadians spend millions of dollars on the purchase of tires. Tires add value to your vehicle when properly cared for. As one of the most important parts of a vehicle, proper tire maintenance involves very simple, routine tasks that can save you money, and help your vehicle perform to its maximum capabilities. By giving them a little attention you can enhance the performance of your car and make the tires last longer.

So what can you do to provide your tires a little TLC?

**First** keep your tires properly inflated. The single greatest cause of tire damage is improper inflation, which results in early and irregular wear. It also decreases your vehicle's fuel mileage. Your owner's manual will have the correct tire pressure for your tires. Investing in an air pressure gauge is money well spent. We recommend that you check the air pressure in your tires at least once a month and perform visual checks regularly to detect possible leaks.

**Second**, keep your tires balanced. When your tires aren't balanced correctly, your vehicle will behave the way a washing machine does with an unbalanced load. The clothes bunch in one spot during the spin cycle and the washer rocks wildly from the uneven weight distribution. When your tires aren't balanced you'll get an uncomfortable ride, the steering wheel will shake, and you'll do damage to your tires and your suspension system if this condition is not looked after.

**Third**, rotate your tires to promote even tire wear. Manufacturers recommend rotation every 10,000 kilometers.

**Fourth**, have your vehicle's alignment checked. Misalignment can result in tire damage as well as damage to the suspension system. Have your alignment checked about every 25,000 kilometers or at least once a year. You'll extend the life of your tires, enhance your vehicle's handling performance and even save on fuel.

So protect your investment by checking tire inflation, tread depth and tread wearing patterns each month.