



# Your vehicle has something new to tell you.

Keeping your automobile's tires properly inflated is important for your safety, for your automobile, and for fuel economy.

**By 2008**, all new vehicles will be equipped with a Tire Pressure Monitoring System to alert motorists to low tire pressure.

## MEET THE new symbols

FOR TIRE PRESSURE

New automobiles are now on sale with a Tire Pressure Monitoring System, including one of these warning lights on your dashboard.

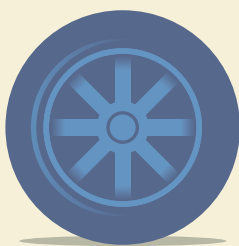


This means that **one or more** of your tires is significantly under-inflated.



This means that the **right front tire** is significantly under-inflated.

## Take our quiz to learn more about tire safety.



See how your answers affect your tire pressure.

Has there been a change in seasons or has the high temperature dropped significantly in the last three months?

CIRCLE YOUR ANSWERS

YES

NO

Has it been more than a month since you checked your tire pressure?

YES

NO

Do you have unnecessary items in the trunk of your vehicle?

YES

NO

Track your answers and go to page 2 to learn more about tire pressure

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# questions and answers

**Q.** Why is proper tire inflation important?

**A.** Keeping your tires at the recommended pressure is essential for the safe and efficient operation of your vehicle. Safety experts estimate that 25 percent of automobiles are running on tires with lower than recommended pressure. Properly inflated tires run cooler, last longer, and improve fuel economy.

**Q.** Why does tire pressure change?

**A.** Many factors affect tire pressure, and that is why it is so important to check your tires at least once a month and before going on long trips. Tire pressure can decrease due to tire damage, slow leaks, or changes in outside temperature. For every drop of 10 degrees Fahrenheit in temperature, your tires lose 1 psi. Tires also deflate naturally over time, as much as 1.5 psi per month.

**Q.** How does the new Tire Pressure Monitoring System work?

**A.** Sophisticated sensors in the automobile continuously monitor tire pressure, and the warning light goes on when a tire is 25 percent or more below the appropriate tire pressure.

**Q.** When will the new Tire Pressure Monitoring System be available?

**A.** The U.S. government, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), requires Tire Pressure Monitoring Systems on all passenger cars and light trucks by the 2008 vehicle model year. Check your owner's manual to see if your vehicle is equipped with a Tire Pressure Monitoring System. Many models have already been equipped with a system.

**Q.** If the warning light goes on and off, what does that mean?

**A.** On cold mornings, the warning light may illuminate and then extinguish as tire pressure increases due to driving or outside air temperature increases. Additionally, if the warning light goes on and off, a malfunction in the system is indicated by a blinking light (for a period of 60 seconds to 90 seconds). After blinking for the brief time, the warning light can remain on. You should then contact your dealer for a system inspection.

**Q.** How soon do I need to fill my tires when the light goes on?

**A.** Please heed the warning light and check your tires as soon as possible.

**Q.** Does the warning light always mean that tire pressure is low?

**A.** The warning light may indicate a system malfunction requiring a dealer's attention. If the warning light flashes before it is continuously on, but the tire pressure is found to be within the appropriate range, contact your dealer for a system inspection.

**Q.** What else do I need to do for tire safety?

**A.** The Tire Pressure Monitoring System is a tool to keep you informed about low tire pressure, but it is no substitute for regular tire maintenance. Check your tire pressure at least once a month and before going on long trips. Consult your owner's manual on replacing a tire or using a spare tire.

## Quiz results

If you answered **YES** to the questions on the other side, your tires may be low.



If you answered YES to **ONE** question.



If you answered YES to **TWO** questions.



If you answered YES to all **THREE** questions.

Temperature changes affect your tires. Extra weight can affect your fuel efficiency and tire pressure. And under-inflated tires can impact your safety. **It's that simple.**

## Think Temperature, Safety, and Fuel Efficiency.

### TEMPERATURE

Tire pressure changes an average of 1 PSI (pounds per square inch) for every 10° F change in air temperature.

### SAFETY

In terms of safety, dry and wet handling performance also suffers with under inflated tires. The types of crashes that under-inflated tires influence are: skidding and/or loss of control, hydroplaning on a wet surface, and crashes from flat tires or blowouts.

### FUEL EFFICIENCY

Fuel efficiency is reduced by 1 percent for every 3 PSI under inflation. Keeping tires properly inflated translates into a free tank of gas annually.