

### P or LT

The “P” indicates the tire is for passenger vehicles.  
“LT” indicates the tire is for light trucks.

### Rim Diameter Code

This two-digit number after R is the wheel or rim diameter in inches.

### Nominal Width

This three-digit number gives the width of the tire in millimeters from sidewall edge to sidewall edge. The larger the number, the wider the tire.

### Aspect Ratio

This two-digit number gives the tire’s ratio of height to width. A number of 50 or lower indicates a short sidewall for improved steering response and better overall handling. The “R” stands for radial. Radial tires have been the industry standard for the past 20 years.

### Maximum Permissible Inflation Pressure

This number is the greatest amount of air pressure that should ever be put in the tire. This is NOT the same as the vehicle manufacturer’s recommended tire pressure.

### Load Index

This two- or three-digit number is the tire’s load index. It is an indicator of how much weight each tire can support. Note: You may not find this information on all tires because it is not required by law.

### Maximum Load Rating

This number indicates the maximum load the tire can carry.

### Temperature

The temperature rating indicates how well the tire resists heat.

### Speed Rating

The letter H is the speed rating tells you the maximum speed capability of a tire. The speed ratings include speeds from 99 mph to above 186 mph. Note: You may not find this information on all tires because it is not required by law.

### M+S

This indicates that the tire has some mud and snow capability.

### Traction

The traction rating indicates the tire’s ability to allow a car to stop on wet pavement in a shorter distance.

### Treadwear

The treadwear rating indicates how long the tire should last. The higher the number, the longer it should take for the tires to wear down.

### U.S. Dot Tire Identification Number

This number begins with the letters “DOT” and indicates that the tire meets all Federal standards. The next two or three numbers or letters are the plant code where the tire was manufactured. The last four numbers represent the week and year the tire was built. For example, the numbers 3107 means the 31st week of 2007. The other numbers are marketing codes used at the manufacturer’s discretion. This information is for contacting consumers if a tire defect requires a recall.

