

## Tire Information

To safely operate your vehicle, your tires must be of the proper type and size, in good condition with adequate tread, and properly inflated.

### ■ Inflation Guidelines

- Properly inflated tires provide the best combination of handling, tread life, and comfort. Refer to the driver's doorjamb label or the specifications for the specified pressure.
- Underinflated tires wear unevenly, adversely affect handling and fuel economy, and are more likely to fail from overheating.
- Overinflated tires make your vehicle ride harshly, are more prone to road hazards, and wear unevenly.
- Every day before you drive, look at each of the tires. If one looks lower than the others, check the pressure with a tire gauge.
- Measure the air pressure when tires are cold. This means the vehicle has been parked for at least 3 hours or driven less than 1 mile (1.6 km). If necessary, add or release air until the specified pressure is reached, and then calibrate the system (see page 119). If checked when hot, tire pressure can be as much as 4–6 psi (30–40 kPa, 0.3–0.5 kgf/cm<sup>2</sup>) higher than checked when cold.
- At least once a month or before long trips, use a gauge to measure the pressure in all tires, including the spare. Even tires in good condition can lose 1–2 psi (10–20 kPa, 0.1–0.2 kgf/cm<sup>2</sup>) per month.

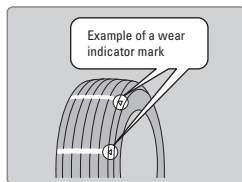
### ■ Inspection Guidelines

Every time you inflate the tires, check for the following:

- Any damage to tires, including bumps, bulges, cuts, splits, or cracks in the side or tread. Remove any foreign objects and inspect for air leaks. Replace tires if you see fabric or cord.
- Uneven or excessive tread wear. Have a dealer check the wheel alignment.
- Cracks or other damage around the valve stems.

### ■ Wear Indicators

The groove where the wear indicator is located is 1/16 inch (1.6 mm) shallower than elsewhere on the tire. If the tread has worn so low that the indicator is exposed, replace the tire. **Worn out tires have poor traction on wet roads.**



## ■ Tire Service Life

The life of your tires is dependent on many factors, including driving habits, road conditions, vehicle loading, inflation pressure, maintenance history, speed, and environmental conditions (even when the tires are not in use).

In addition to regular inspections and inflation pressure maintenance, it is recommended that you have annual inspections performed once the tires reach five years old. All tires, including the spare, should be removed from service after 10 years from the date of manufacture, regardless of their condition or state of wear.

## ■ Winter Tires

If driving on snowy or frozen roads, mount all season tires marked “M+S”, snow tires, or tire chains; reduce speed and maintain sufficient distance between vehicles when driving. For winter tires, select the size and load ranges that are the same as the original tires and mount them to all four wheels.

## ■ Tire Chains

Because your vehicle has limited tire clearance, we strongly recommend using the following chains:

### **For 215/55R16 tires:**

Cable-type: Autotrac 0154505

### **For 215/50R17 tires:**

Cable-type: Autotrac 0154005

### **For 235/40R18 tires:**

Chains not recommended.

Install tire chains on the front tires only. Mount chains as tightly as you can and make sure that they do not touch the brake lines or suspension.

## **WARNING**

Using the wrong chains, or not properly installing chains, can damage the brake lines and cause a crash in which you can be seriously injured or killed.

Follow all instructions in this guide regarding the selection and use of tire chains.

## **NOTICE**

Traction devices that are the wrong size or improperly installed can damage your vehicle's brake lines, suspension, body, and wheels. Stop driving if they are hitting any part of the vehicle.

### ■ Temperature

The temperature grades are A (the highest), B, and C, representing the tire's resistance to the generation of heat and its ability to dissipate heat when tested under controlled conditions on a specified indoor laboratory test wheel. Sustained high temperature can cause the material of the tire to degenerate and reduce tire life, and excessive temperature can lead to sudden tire failure. The grade C corresponds to a level of performance which all passenger car tires must meet under the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 109. Grades B and A represent higher levels of performance on the laboratory test wheel than the minimum required by law.

**WARNING:** The temperature grade for this tire is established for a tire that is properly inflated and not overloaded. Excessive speed, underinflation, or excessive loading, either separately or in combination, can cause heat buildup and possible tire failure.

### Cold or Rainy Weather Driving

#### Models having SPORT mode with summer tires

Summer-only and Ultra High Performance (UHP) tires are very sensitive to ambient temperatures and are designed to be used at temperatures above 45°F (7°C). Below that temperature, Summer-only and UHP tires provide decreasing amounts of grip and other performance attributes. At temperatures below -4°F (-20°C), the tire treads may become brittle, resulting in permanent damage to the tread. A damaged tire may fail during use. Therefore, if you will operate the vehicle when temperatures are below 45°F (7°C), we recommend you install other tires (e.g., mud+snow, winter) designed to perform under the expected conditions.

#### **WARNING**

Use of Summer-only or Ultra High Performance tires at temperatures below 45°F (7°C) may lead to a loss of performance and control, which could result in a crash, serious injury, or death.