



Auto Skills Center Hours of Operation

Wednesday – Friday
12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Hobby Shop
Building 375
(760) 577 - 6441**



Auto Skills Center, a Marine Corps
Community Services Facility

Brochure by MCCS Marketing

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Tire Safety & Awareness



Presented by:

**MCCS Auto Skills Center
Hobby Shop, Bldg. 375**

(760) 577-6441

Did You Know...

Expiration

Tires **expire 4 years** after the date of manufacture, which is stamped on the side and is shown as a four-digit number indicating the week and year it was made. For example, “(0707)” would be: “7th week of 2007”.

Safety is unpredictable after four years.



Check inflation monthly when tires are cool.

Inflation

Check inflation levels **monthly** using an accurate gauge when tires are cool. The maximum pressure pounds-per-square-inch (or ‘psi’) appears in small numbers next to the rim and always refers to “cold” tire levels. Recommended ‘psi’ levels may differ for front and rear tires; check owner’s manual or decal (in glove box or on door jamb). A few pounds less is O.K., but never over-inflate! Tire failure (a “blow-out”) could occur from under-inflation, which creates instability (when the tire “heats-up” unnaturally fast) and a dramatic increase in tread wear.

| | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| If ‘Max. Press.’ recommended is: | 32 psi | 44 psi | 50 psi |
| ...then this is lowest acceptable : | 28 psi | 35 psi | 44 psi |

Load Index

This rating requires a chart for reference, using the three-digit number, followed by a single capital letter (speed rating) printed on the tire, to determine the maximum load capacity for specific tires. **Be aware — use common sense!** Avoid placing too heavy a load on your tires and adjust a few extra psi to rear tires to offset any added weight.

Speed Rating

The capital letter after the numeric load index designates the maximum speed determined to be safe for the tire. (It is recommended to use one step higher than needed.)

| Rating | Max. MPH | Rating | Max. MPH |
|--------|----------|--------|----------|
| Q | 100 | H | 130 |
| R | 106 | V | 149 |
| S | 112 | W | 168 |
| T | 118 | Y | 186 |
| U | 124 | Z | over 186 |

Temperature Resistance

For safest/best tire performance, ensure using a tire that is appropriate for the type of climate in your area. “**Temperature A**” means that the tire is designed for use in **hot** areas; “**B**” is for **normal** areas; and “**C**” is for **cold** areas.

Traction

Traction rating refers to “handling” and the ability to stop on wet pavement.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|--|
| Better Handling... | to | ...handles less responsively |
| Quicker stopping/less distance... | | ...longer to stop/more distance needed |
| ‘AA’ | ‘A’ | ‘B’ |
| | | ‘BB’ |

Tread Wear

Tires receive a numerical tread wear grade that reflects the *rate* at which the tires wear out. For example: a tire graded at ‘400’ lasts twice as long as one graded ‘200’. This is always good to know — for safety and cost comparison reasons.

Type/Size Designation

A tire’s description is comprised as follows — example: ‘**P 265/60 R 18**’... the ‘**P**’ is for **Passenger** car tire; ‘**265**’ is the **Width** in millimeters; ‘**60**’ is the **Aspect Ratio** (height to width) — 60% of the width in this case; ‘**R**’ denotes it is a **Radial**; and ‘**18**’ is the **Wheel Size** in inches. ‘**M + S**’ refers to **Mud and Snow**.

Steel-Belted Radials perform better than “Bias Ply” types.

Always observe manufacturer’s recommended specifications and rotation pattern/schedule.



Know your tires...



Your Tires = Your Life!