

Protect your tyres this winter



Winter weather typically means lower temperatures, leading to an increased chance of ice and snow.

For your safety, make sure you equip your vehicle with tyres designed for these conditions. You'll need a tyre with a suitable rubber compound and tread for optimal grip.

Which tyres are best for the winter months?

Modern manufacturers create specific rubber compounds and treads to suit several conditions.

Tyre sellers suggest that when the temperature drops below 7 degrees Celsius, it's time to swap out standard summer tyres for those designed to handle colder climates.

Breaking distances typically increase with winter tyres when the temperature reaches 20 degrees Celsius or more. So, it's important to keep on top of changing weather conditions and swap back to summer tyres when the temperature rises.

What to consider about all-weather tyres

All-weather tyres can be hassle-free and more cost-effective for weather all year round. However, they usually offer less traction than seasonal tyres in both winter and summer.

Of course, it depends on the weather conditions in your area, if you rarely see snow, an all-weather tyre might be enough for your vehicle.

When should I fit winter tyres?

As we don't tend to have much snow in the UK, the choice to fit winter tyres should be down to personal preference and geographical location.

It's sensible to switch tyres when temperatures drop below 7 degrees Celsius, or between October and March. While it's not a legal requirement to fit winter tyres in the UK, this is the safest option for snow and ice or cold and damp conditions.

Will I ever need snow chains?

If you're driving abroad during the winter, or travelling in snowy conditions, you might have to think about adding snow chains.

Due to the harsh metal construction of the chain, these should be seen as a last resort and only used when there's a thick blanket of snow on the roads. Chains can cause damage to road surface and can have an adverse effect on the way a car drives.

Switching to winter tyres, and back to summer ones, could keep you safer on the roads.