



"it's all about attitude"



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The Thinking Driver

Think about your tire pressure

When was the last time you checked your tire pressure? **Thinking Driver** is mindful that fuel is a significant fleet cost. Save fuel and make sure that your vehicle will perform when needed.

You probably didn't know that tires that are under-inflated as little as four pounds per square inch (psi) - about one tenth of the total pressure in the average tire - can create enough rolling resistance to burn significantly more fuel.

According to Transport Canada statistics, 90 per cent of all cars on the road have at least one under-inflated tire.

Making sure your car tires are inflated does more than save you money; it also makes sure you have a safer journey. Under-inflated tires present a real risk on the road. They get hotter faster, which reduces the life of the tire and can cause tire failure. Statistics show tire blowouts are a major factor in car crashes. Half a dozen simple checks done regularly are all it takes to give you peace of mind, yet few people take the time to do them. Keeping a tire pressure gauge in the glove compartment makes it easy to check the tires regularly when you fill up with gas.

Low tires also affect the stability of your vehicle in turns, corners and while braking or accelerating.

For day-to-day commuting, checking once a week is ideal. On longer trips, it pays to check tire pressure more often. If you're in doubt about the proper tire pressure for your car, you'll find the figure listed on a label inside the door on the driver's side, or check for it in your owner's manual. It's easy to forget the spare when it's hidden from sight, but make a periodic check of it too.

Keep in mind that the pressure shown on the side of the tire is not the recommended pressure but the maximum pressure that the tire can handle.

That takes care of under inflated tires. Now, you're ready to move on to wear and tear. Inspect the tires regularly for even wear as well as for any cuts and bulges in the side-walls. Be thorough. You should be able to see every groove in the tire clearly.

For optimal performance, each groove should be at least 1.5 mm, about 2/32 inches, deep. Grooves are easy to check with an inexpensive tread-depth gauge, available from your local auto-parts store. (This tool can be stored handily with the tire gauge in the glove compartment).

Space is still available!

2008 Thinking Driver Instructor Course (TDIC) Schedule

We will train your instructors to deliver Thinking Driver to your employees.

Vancouver, BC May 12 to 16, 2008
Edmonton, AB May 26 to 30, 2008
Saskatchewan July 7 to 11, 2008

Call us for details. We can custom design a practical instructor course to include all elements that you require of your program.

For more information, contact Annette DeCaire Fakaro at afakaro@thinkingdriver.com or call 604-596-0500.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#). Questions or comments? Email Tara.Lau@thinkingdriver.com or call us at 604-596-0500 or toll free at 1-877-250-5601 Mail us at 12602-54th Avenue, Surrey, BC V3X3C1 To download a printable version of this newsletter, [click here](#).

Do some spots on the tire seem more worn than others? Uneven wear could be a signal your wheels need aligning. Balancing can also cause uneven wear. Replace any tires which seem worn; if in doubt, check with your local garage. New-model tires carry a built-in wear bar that warns you when the tire needs to be replaced.

If you're in the market to purchase new tires, there are three safety features to consider before you buy.

Matching the right size tire for your make of car may seem too obvious for words. But it's important - and worth checking in the owner's manual before you put your money down. Second, a variety of treads are available on tires, so think about the conditions you normally drive in. It pays to pick the one that's going to serve you best. Last but not least, choose a tire that can handle the vehicle's maximum load limit.

For more information on tires check out these links:

<http://www.tiresafety.com>

<http://www.tc.gc.ca/roadsafety/tires/menu.htm>

http://www.rma.org/tire_safety/

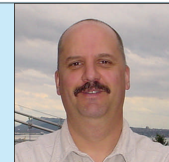
MEET THE TEAM...

Daniel Boyer, Chief Instructor

Dan is a Truck and Transportation Industry Specialist with 25 years of experience in the RCMP and conducts fleet safety and logbook audits as well as developing and delivering all types of vehicle training.

Dan spent 3 years training police officers in all aspects of driving from basic patrol, defensive driving to high-speed pursuit. Dan was the training officer for the RCMP Lower Mainland District Traffic Services. He also designed the commercial vehicle enforcement course and the radar and laser courses for RCMP. Dan is a Level 1 CVSE (commercial vehicle safety alliance for North America) inspector. He is also an Instructor for the Transport of dangerous goods and for North American load securement.

Dan is fluently bilingual (French and English) and has been a guest speaker for several commercial vehicle companies.



Thinking Driver CONTEST

Our Thinking Driver mascot has been given the predictable moniker of "Happy Guy". As the face of our company he is a hard working guy and we feel he really needs to have a proper name. We're looking for



something catchy, original and memorable. If you think you have found the right name for him we would love to hear from you! Send us your suggestion and, if it is chosen, you will win a copy of our 5 Minute Fundamentals DVD (\$249 value). If more than one person has submitted the same chosen name then a draw will take place to decide the winner. Contest closes April 30, 2008. Thanks, and good luck!

Email: Tara.Lau@thinkingdriver.com

Click to check out a preview of the [Five Minute Fundamentals](#).