



Tire Change Guide

Sooner or later, it's bound to happen to most everyone. You're driving along with your mind on the important meeting agenda and suddenly your vehicle pulls to one side and you hear that dreaded flapping sound of a flat tire. Nowadays, many drivers have roadside assistance services that will come fix your flats, but it's always smart to know how to change a flat yourself. Because it's a fairly common occurrence, vehicle manufacturers have tried to make the tire change process one that virtually anyone can do.

1 Exit the Road

- Come off the gas
- Stay off the brake
- If you have manual transmission, leave vehicle in gear
- If on the highway, exit the highway
- Pull over to a flat spot on the side of the road
- Stop the vehicle
- Put the vehicle in park
- Put on the emergency flashers
- Put on the emergency brake

2 Exit the Vehicle

- Turn off the car and put keys in pocket
- Unbuckle seat belt
- Check mirrors for vehicles
- Check over left shoulder for vehicles
- Exit vehicle

3 Remove Flat Tire

- Open trunk and get spare tire and tools
- Put spare tire underneath car on the same side as the flat tire
- Avoid placing your legs under the car
- Set your up jack in accordance with your vehicle manufacturer's guidelines
- Put in wheel chuck on opposite and diagonal side of the flat tire to stop car movement
- Loosen up lug nuts (do not fully remove)
- Jack up the vehicle
- Fully remove lug nuts
- Place lug nuts in safe spot for later use

4 Install Spare Tire

- Take flat tire off and switch with spare tire
- Put spare tire on and begin to install lug nuts
- Tighten each lug nut 50%, choosing which nut to tighten in a chris-cross pattern until all are tightened
- Lower jack, bring car back to normal position
- Take flat tire out from underneath the car
- Fully tighten lug nuts in the same chris-cross pattern
- Put flat tire, hub cap, jack and tools in trunk
- Close trunk
- Take out wheel chucks.

5 Return to Vehicle

- Get back in vehicle
- Put on seat belt
- Disengage emergency break
- Start vehicle
- Disengage emergency flashers

6 Return to Road

- Put vehicle in drive
- Put on directional
- Check for vehicles
- Drive back on to the road

Important Items to Have

- Flashlight (with extra batteries)
- Tarp or mat (to kneel on)
- Fix-a-flat spray foam
- Rain poncho
- Gloves
- Tire blocks
- Tire Gauge

