

Vehicle Inspectors Bulletin No 03

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Transport Services Division

Issued by
Road Transport Compliance

For: ♦ Transport Inspectors ♦ NT Police
♦ Authorised Inspectors ♦ Outstations

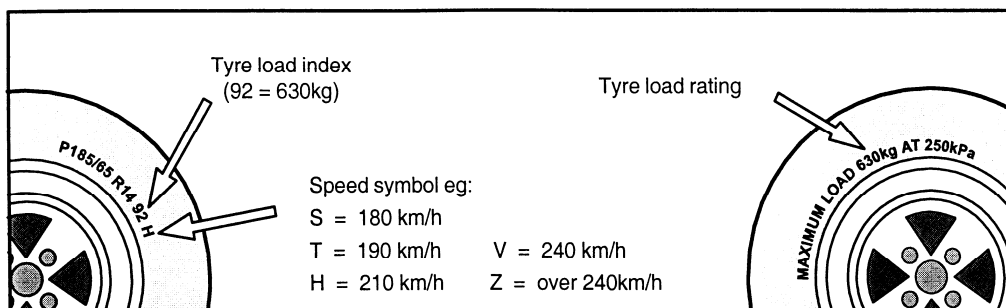
Inspection of Tyre Load and Speed Rating

Background

Road wheels and tyres are vital to a vehicles safety. Since 1971, Australian Design Rules (ADRs) have been progressively introduced to specify wheel and tyre strength, air pressures, speed and load ratings and allowable combinations of wheel rims and tyres.

Since 1973 ADRs required cars to be fitted with a tyre placard (located usually in the glove box or on the door-frame) which specifies the wheel and tyre combinations recommended by the vehicle manufacturer. This placard also specifies recommended air pressure, load capacity and speed rating of tyres.

Tyre load and speed rating are displayed on the tyre sidewall as shown below.



Darwin

Vehicle Standards Centre
Goyder Road, Parap
Phone: (08) 8999 3127
(08) 8999 3133
Fax: (08) 8999 3187

Katherine

Katherine Weigh Bridge
Stuart Highway
Phone: (08) 8973 8791
Fax: (08) 8973 8762

Alice Springs

Vehicle Standards Centre
North Stuart Highway
Phone: (08) 8951 5297
Fax: (08) 8951 5313

The tables below detail the load index and the speed symbol with their corresponding values for passenger type tyres, for any additional information contact the Vehicle Compliance Section at Motor Vehicle Registry.

Tyre Load Index				
Load Index		Load in kg per tyre		
62		265		
62 265	75 387	88 560	101 825	114 1180
63 272	76 400	89 580	102 850	115 1215
64 280	77 412	90 600	103 875	116 1250
65 290	78 425	91 615	104 900	117 1285
66 300	79 437	92 630	105 925	118 1320
67 307	80 450	93 650	106 950	119 1360
68 315	81 462	94 670	107 975	120 1400
69 325	82 475	95 690	108 1000	121 1450
70 335	83 487	96 710	109 1030	122 1500
71 345	84 500	97 730	110 1060	123 1550
72 355	85 515	98 750	111 1090	124 1600
73 365	86 530	99 775	112 1120	125 1650
74 375	87 545	100 800	113 1150	126 1700

Tyre Speed Rating				
Speed Symbol		Speed in km/h		
J		100		
J 100	K 110	L 120	M 130	N 140
P 150	Q 160	R 170	S 180	T 190
H 210	V 240	W 270	Y 300	
	VR >210	ZR >240		

Inspection Procedures

All Inspectors are reminded of the requirement to check the speed and load rating of all tyres fitted to vehicles presented for roadworthy inspections.

Tyre ratings must comply with the lesser of:

- i. the ratings specified by the vehicle manufacturer, as displayed on the tyre placard; or
- ii. the ratings specified in the National Code of Practice for Light Vehicle Construction and Modification (Vehicle Standards Bulletin VSB 14) – Section LS (Part 4).

Any vehicle fitted with alternative rims and/or tyres to those originally supplied by the vehicle manufacturer as indicated on the tyre placard must comply with VSB 14 – Section LS (Part 4). This bulletin is available on the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government's Internet site, at <http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/roads/publications/index.aspx>

Any vehicle fitted with alternative rims and tyres which have been approved as a vehicle modification by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) must have the rims and tyres fitted as specified in the TAC certificate.

Action

Vehicles that are found to not meet the above requirements are not to be passed fit for registration.