



Tech Talk



Selecting Tires for Corvettes

Source – Larry Rains – Retired Auto Mechanic Instructor

I just got finished ordering tires of my Corvette. This gave me the thought to share some ideas and experiences with you. I had been using Goodyear tires on my Corvettes and other cars for many years. I switched to Michelins because Goodyear has not kept up on tires for performance cars. The Corvette plant has done the same thing; all Michelins now. Of course, there are a lot of brands to choose from as we all know.

The other decision on tires are funflat vs non-runflat technology. The non-run flats are cheaper, ride better, and maybe last longer. The problem with non-run flats are if you have a blow-out, fast leak, or a completely flat tire. If you are driving the car you may be on the wheel before you know it. That will ruin the wheel and possibly the fenders if the tire starts flapping around. I have seen this happen on city streets and Interstate highways. On a Corvette this puts the frame right on the ground. You can't even get it on a roll back truck. Of course, if it's a slow leak and you catch it in time, you could possibly plug it or use "fix-a-flat" stuff. I've used both with some success, but not on a Corvette. Of course there is no guarantee with run-flat tires either.

Tire pricing is competitive and an experience that you should do. You should also have your Corvette aligned at the same time you install new tires. It's a confusing and difficult decision when choosing tires for your Corvette. We will all make different decisions depending on our tire needs. Luckily, there are a lot of choices out there.