

BRIDGESTONE

2019

MOTORCYCLE TIRE
MAINTENANCE, SAFETY
AND WARRANTY GUIDE



MOTORCYCLE TIRE SAFETY & MAINTENANCE INFORMATION

TO REDUCE THE RISK OF TIRE FAILURE, IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT ALL SAFETY INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS BROCHURE IS READ AND FOLLOWED.

Motorcycle tires play a vital role in the performance, handling and safety of the bike. It is extremely important that motorcycle tires receive proper maintenance to keep the tires safe. Remember; when on a motorcycle, there are only two small contact patches with the road, so it is critical to keep the tires in top condition.

Any tire, no matter how well constructed, may fail in use as a result of punctures, impact damage, improper inflation, overloading, or other conditions resulting from use or misuse. Tire failure may create a risk of property damage, serious personal injury or death.

Many tire failures are preceded by vibration, bumps, bulges or irregular wear. It is recommended that riders do a periodic inspection of their tires and have any imbedded objects removed by a qualified service person. If a vibration occurs while riding a motorcycle, or a bump, bulge or irregular wear is noticed, have the tires and motorcycle evaluated by a qualified service person.

It is not often that a properly maintained tire will "blow out" while in use. More commonly if air is lost, it will be gradual. If a blow out or sudden tire failure is experienced, the following information should be helpful:

- If a failure occurs, slowly decrease the amount of throttle, hold the handlebars firmly, and steer to maintain lane position.
- Once the motorcycle has slowed and is fully under control, apply the brakes gently. Gradually pull over to the shoulder and come to a stop.

Tire Selection

- Consult the vehicle owner's manual, local dealer, or contact a Bridgestone Technical Center for the correct tire size, load rating, tire and rim matching.
- Some motorcycle wheel positions may only be fitted with radial, bias, or bias belted tires. Mixing tires of different construction may adversely affect handling and stability and should be avoided unless specifically recommended by the vehicle manufacturer. Consult the vehicle owner's manual or local dealer for the correct tire/wheel combination for any motorcycle.
- Mixing worn and unworn tires, or different patterns, may cause a change in motorcycle handling and/or stability. Any time a new tire is fitted to a motorcycle, it should be subjected to a careful ride evaluation to allow the rider to adjust to the new conditions. See "Run-in Period" section.

Rim Size

It is extremely important to mount a motorcycle tire on a proper sized rim. Be sure to match tire size to the size allowed on the rim. Improper rim width will change the tire profile and may affect handling and stability.

Tire Mounting

Never mount passenger car tires on motorcycle rims or vice versa.

- New replacement tube-type tires should always be fitted with new for tube-type applications.
- Mount only "tubeless" tires on "tubeless" rims when the rim manufacturer recommends this fitment. Some rims require tubes. A "tubeless" tire can be installed on a "tube type" rim when the appropriate tube is inserted.
- Do not install non-radial tubes in radial tires. Radial tires should be fitted with tubes marked with the radial ("R") designation. Be sure the tube marking matches the radial tire marking before installation to rims requiring tubes.
- A new valve stem should be installed on the rim each time a worn out motorcycle tire is replaced.
- Be sure to use an appropriate amount of approved bead lubricant when mounting the tire.
- Never put flammable substances in tire/rim assemblies at any time.
- Never inflate above 57 psi to seat tire beads. After seating tire beads, adjust inflation to pressure recommended by vehicle manufacturer.
- Always mount tire in direction of rotational arrows or indicators stamped on the sidewall.

Note: Tires marked "Front Tire" or "Rear Tire" should be mounted only in their stated wheel positions.

Run-In

Use care when riding on new tires. We recommend that you ride slowly and carefully for the first 60 miles (~100 km) until you become accustomed to the performance of your new tires in conjunction with your motorcycle. We recommend avoiding extreme maneuvers, including sudden acceleration, maximum braking and hard cornering, until you have become accustomed to the performance of your tires in conjunction with your motorcycle.

Tire Pressure

CHECKING INFLATION PRESSURE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT TIRE MAINTENANCE FUNCTION.

- Follow inflation pressure recommendations in Owner's Manual and on vehicle identification placard.
- For fully loaded or dual riding touring motorcycle applications, inflate front and rear tires to maximum recommendation by the vehicle manufacturer (maximum load and inflation pressure for tire can be found on the sidewall of the tire).
- Underinflated tires can result in poor handling, higher operating temperature, irregular tire wear, fatigue cracking and irreparable damage to the tire.
- Overinflated tires can result in a harsh ride and increased wear in the center of the tread. The tires are more likely to be cut, punctured, or broken by sudden impact. Do not exceed the maximum pressure indicated on the tire sidewall.

- Check cold tire pressure at least once a week with a good quality gauge and always before extended trips. The tires are "cold" when the motorcycle has been ridden less than a mile at moderate speed or has not been ridden for three or more hours.
- Old or damaged valve stems and cores may cause air loss. Replace them when mounting new tires. Use caps (finger tight) on the valve stems to keep dust, dirt and moisture away from the valve.
- Repeated loss of air pressure may be the result of tire damage. Perform a visual inspection for any cuts, abrasions, punctures, blisters, etc. It may be necessary to remove the tire from the wheel to perform a full inspection.

Load-Carrying Capacity

Every Bridgestone street tire has a maximum load and corresponding pressure, which is indicated on the sidewall. Never exceed the maximum load stamped on the tire sidewall or the maximum motorcycle load rating, whichever is lower. **REMEMBER: the load-carrying capability of the tires is reduced by under inflation.** It is possible to overload a tire even though it is the size specified by the motorcycle manufacturer.

- Towing a trailer behind a motorcycle may contribute to motorcycle instability. It may also cause extreme tire stress and overload. This overloaded condition could cause irreversible damage to the tire and result in sudden tire failure and accident. Bridgestone does not warrant tires used on motorcycles fitted with trailers.
- Sidecars should not be fitted to motorcycles without approval from the motorcycle manufacturer.

Tire Clearance

- Consult the vehicle manufacturer before mounting sizes other than indicated in the owner's manual. Adequate clearance of fenders, swingarm, etc., must be maintained. An increase or decrease in tire size may require an increase or decrease in wheel width.

Tire Repairs

- An emergency/temporary sealant or filler injected into a tire, for example via an aerosol can or injection/squeeze-tube, is not a proper repair and voids the tire Limited Warranty. A tire injected with such sealant or filler must be replaced by a qualified tire service professional as soon as possible.
- Repairs of all tires (radial and non-radial) must be a permanent plug-patch repair. Using plugs or patches alone, on any type of tire is not a safe repair.
- Never repair a tire with less than 1/32nd inch (0.8 millimeters) tread remaining. At this tread depth, the tire is worn out and must be replaced.
- Never repair a tire with a puncture larger than 1/4 inch (6 mm) in diameter. Such tires cannot be properly repaired and must be replaced.
- Never repair a tire with a puncture or other damage outside the tread area. Such tires cannot be properly repaired and must be replaced.
- Any tire repair done without removing the tire from the rim is improper.
- Tubes, like tires, should be repaired only by a qualified tire service person.
- Never use a tube as a substitute for a proper repair.

A tire's speed rating is void if the tire is repaired, retreaded, damaged or abused, or otherwise altered from its original condition. Thereafter, it should be treated as a non-speed-rated tire.

Speed should not exceed 50 mph (80kph) in the first 24 hours after a repair is made and the repaired tire should never be used at speeds above 80 mph (128 kph).

Dyno Testing

Do not use a tire that has been subjected to motorcycle dynamometer testing. The stress from this process may result in tread compound degradation and possible tire failure.

High Speed Riding

- Regardless of the speed and handling capabilities of a motorcycle and its tires, a loss of control can result from exceeding the maximum speed allowed by law or warranted by traffic, weather, motorcycle or road conditions. High-speed riding should be left to trained professionals under controlled conditions.
- No tire, regardless of its design or speed rating, has unlimited capacity for speed, and a sudden tire failure can occur if its limits are exceeded.

Race Tires

Never use race tires on public roads. Race tires are constructed in such a way that they may be unstable under normal street riding conditions. These tires also require higher operating temperatures for proper performance. These temperatures cannot be obtained within legal speed limits.

Tire Service Life

Make sure tires continue to be regularly inspected after 5 years of service to determine if they can continue in service. Regardless of the tire's condition or tread depth, it is recommended that tires more than 10 years old be taken out of service and replaced with new tires. See "Tire Manufacture Date," the next section in this manual.

This is not a warranty that any tire will obtain 10 years of service. Some tires will require replacement before 10 years due to conditions such as punctures, impact damage, improper inflation, overloading, tread wear or other conditions involving use or misuse of the tire. If a tire is worn out or otherwise unserviceable from damage or conditions of use, it should be replaced regardless of when it was produced or placed in service.

Tire Manufacture Date

The tire manufacture date is determined by examining the DOT tire identification number, also known as the DOT serial number or code, which can be found on at least one sidewall near the wheel. It may be necessary to look on both sides of the tire to find the entire serial code.

Tires Produced Since 2000: The last four (4) digits of the serial code identify the week and year of production. In the example below, the tire was produced in the 18th week of 2000. Another example, a tire with a serial code ending in "2406" would have been produced in the 24th week of 2006.

Tires Produced Prior to 2000: The last three (3) digits of the serial code identify the week and year of production. For example, a tire with a code ending "329" would likely have been produced in the 32nd week of 1999, but possibly produced in 1989. If in doubt, consult a qualified tire service professional.

Tire Storage

Tires and/or motorcycles should be stored indoors in a cool dry place. Water collecting inside the tires can cause damage. The tires and/or motorcycles should be placed away from electric generators and motors and sources of heat such as hot pipes. Storage surfaces should be clean and free of grease, gasoline, or other substances, which can deteriorate rubber. Improper storage can damage tires in ways that may not be visible.



Care and Use at Low Temperatures

Motorcycle tires may crack in the tread area from impact or deformation at low ambient temperatures; handle and store tires with care. Additionally, always ride with caution (avoid sudden acceleration, maximum braking and hard cornering) until the tires have warmed up to operating temperature, particularly in low ambient temperature conditions.

BRIDGESTONE MOTORCYCLE TIRE LIMITED WARRANTY

Eligibility

This Limited Warranty covers BRIDGESTONE brand motorcycle tires and only applies to the original purchaser. It is valid if all of the following apply:

- The tire was purchased after January 1, 2009.
- The tire is of a size that is specified for use by the vehicle manufacturer or Bridgestone.
- The tire has been used only on the vehicle on which it was originally installed.

What Is Warranted and For How Long

If, before wearing down to 1/32 inch (0.8mm) of remaining original tread depth (i.e., worn down to the top of the built-in indicators in the tread grooves), and within 4 years from the date of purchase (proof of purchase required; without proof of purchase, then 4 years from the date of manufacture - referenced by the last four digits of the DOT number), for any reason other than those excluded in the section entitled "What This Limited Warranty Does Not Cover," any eligible tire becomes unusable for any reason within the manufacturer's control, such tire will be replaced with an equivalent new Bridgestone tire on the basis set forth in this Limited Warranty.

What This Limited Warranty Does Not Cover

1. Tires with less than 1/32nd of an inch of original tread depth (i.e., worn down to the top of the built-in indicators in the tread grooves).
2. Tire damage or irregular wear due to:
 - A. **Road hazards**, including, without limitation: Puncture, cut, impact break, stone drill, bruise, bulge, snag, etc.
 - B. **Improper use or operation**, including, without limitation: Improper inflation pressure, overloading, tire/wheel spinning, use of an improper wheel, tire chain damage, misuse, misapplication, negligence, tire alteration, or use for racing or competition purposes.
 - C. **Insufficient or improper maintenance**, including, without limitation: Wheel misalignment, improper brake adjustment, worn suspension components, improper tire mounting or demounting, tire/wheel assembly imbalance, or other vehicle conditions, defects, or characteristics.
 - D. **Contamination or degradation** after purchase by petroleum products or other chemicals, fire or other externally generated heat, or water or other material trapped inside the tire during mounting or inflation.
 - E. **Improper repair**. Improper repair voids this Limited Warranty.
3. Rapid tread wear or wear-out. Motorcycle tires have no mileage warranty.
4. Weather/ozone cracking after 4 years from the date of manufacture.
5. Ride disturbance or vibration after 1/32 inch (0.8mm) of tread wear use.
6. Tires with sealant, balance, or other filler material that was not originally applied or inserted by the tire manufacturer.
7. Tires fitted with used, damaged, or incorrect size inner tubes.
8. Tires purchased as used.
9. The consequences of new tires or repaired tires not being allowed a proper Run-in Period.
10. Tires purchased and normally used outside of the United States.
11. Tires used on motorcycles fitted with trailers.
12. Tires Inflated with anything other than air, nitrogen or carbon dioxide.

Replacement Price

- **Free Replacement Period:** Motorcycle tires adjusted under this Limited Warranty will be replaced free of charge during the first 50% of tread wear or within 12 months of the date of purchase (proof of purchase required; without proof of purchase, then 12 months from the date of manufacture), whichever occurs first.

After the free replacement period, the tire will be replaced for a pro-rated charge. To determine the replacement price, the dealer will multiply the current dealer selling price of the tire (in effect at the time of adjustment) by 50%. The cost of mounting, balancing, and other service charges, disposal fees, or applicable taxes are payable by the consumer. A CASH REFUND WILL NOT BE OFFERED IN LIEU OF THE ABOVE.

Where To Go for Replacement

If the tire was fitted as original equipment, it should be presented to the retailer from whom the motorcycle was purchased. With the exception of mail order tires, tires that were not fitted as original equipment may be presented to any authorized Bridgestone retailer. A mail order tire must be returned to the company from which it was ordered and the consumer must pay all associated shipping and handling costs.

Owner's Responsibilities

- A. Owner is responsible for proper tire care, and lawful and prudent motorcycle operation. Part of this responsibility is maintaining proper tire inflation pressure and load as recommended by motorcycle manufacturer and in accordance with restrictions molded on tire sidewalls. Inflation pressure should be checked frequently with a tire gauge and the tire should be regularly inspected for damage or irregular wear.
- B. Owner must present to any authorized Bridgestone motorcycle tire dealer or agent the tire for which he or she is seeking warranty consideration and proof of purchase. (Consult a telephone directory for the nearest authorized Bridgestone motorcycle tire dealer).
- C. Owner must pay all applicable dealer service charges and taxes.
- D. Owner must complete and sign the customer section of the Bridgestone Limited Warranty Form.
- E. The motorcycle on which the tire was equipped must also be available for inspection by an authorized dealer.
- F. Tires accepted for warranty compensation become the property of Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC.

Consumer Rights

This warranty gives consumers specific legal rights, and consumers may also have other rights, which vary from state to state.

Conditions and Exclusions

To the extent permitted by law, Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC disclaims all other warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose and any liability for incidental and consequential damages, loss of time or loss of vehicle use or inconvenience. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitations of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to all consumers.

This Limited Warranty applies only to consumers actually using the tire in the United States. For warranty conditions outside the United States, see the local Bridgestone distributor. Obligations under this policy may not be enlarged or altered by anyone.

In accordance with Federal Law, this Limited Warranty has been designated as a "Limited Warranty." Nothing in this Limited Warranty is intended to be a representation that tire failures cannot occur. This Limited Warranty is given in the United States by Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC, 200 Fourth Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37201.

For purchases in Canada, please see separate Warranty Brochure.

BATTLECRUISE H50 SUPPLEMENTAL ROAD HAZARD LIMITED WARRANTY

Limited Warranty

Not applicable to tires purchased in the state of New York.

For additional peace of mind, the Battlecruise H50 Supplemental Road Hazard Limited Warranty covers eligible tires that become damaged or unusable for any reason resulting from a road hazard (e.g. cut, snag, bruise, impact or puncture). This warranty, given to promote goodwill, is a supplement to the Limited Warranty applicable to your tires.

Eligibility

For additional peace of mind, the Battlecruise H50 Supplemental Road Hazard Limited Warranty covers only the original purchaser. Proof of purchase is required in the form of an original invoice or receipt that must indicate the name of the purchaser, the purchase date, the vehicle mileage (odometer reading) at installation and the retailer's name and address. Only Bridgestone Battlecruise H50 tires are covered, and each must meet all the of the following criteria:

- It was purchased new through an authorized retailer.
- It was used only on the vehicle on which it was originally installed.
- It meets or exceeds the vehicle manufacturer recommendations for size, load capacity, and speed rating.
- It was mounted to a properly-sized wheel.

The coverage period starts with the date the tires are purchased and extends for a duration of up to one of the following, whichever occurs first:

- A. The first 1/32 of tread wear or
- B. 12 months from date of purchase

If you receive a replacement tire under this Battlecruise H50 Supplemental Road Hazard Limited Warranty, it will be covered by the tire manufacturer's warranty or warranties, if any, given on that tire at that time.

What is Warranted

An eligible Battlecruise H50 tire that becomes damaged or unusable for any reason resulting from a road hazard (e.g. cut, snag, bruise, impact or puncture) will be replaced in the following manner:

- Tires will be replaced with a new Battlecruise H50 tire free of charge.
- You are responsible for payment for mounting, balancing, applicable taxes and disposal fees, if any. Also excluded is coverage for any other parts or services, including but not limited to charges for road service, towing and valve stem components.

Where to Go

Tire service under the Battlecruise H50 Supplemental Road Hazard Limited Warranty will only be performed at an authorized retailer.

Consumer Rights

The Battlecruise H50 Supplemental Road Hazard Limited Warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

MOTORCYCLE TIRE WARRANTY ADJUSTMENT PROCEDURE

Authorized Motorcycle Dealer

1. Rider/Customer presents the Bridgestone tire to motorcycle dealer explaining in detail the possible issue. Based on the Bridgestone Motorcycle Tire Limited Warranty, the dealer shall determine if the tire in question qualifies under the terms of the warranty.
2. If the tire is believed to be warrantable, the dealer must completely fill out an adjustment form. To request an adjustment form, contact distributor.
3. Mark the area of issue with a white or yellow grease crayon and note the adjustment form number along with a brief description of issue on sidewall and/or in a note attached to tire. (Keep a copy of all adjustment records.)
4. Return tire accompanied with the adjustment form and note describing issue to the servicing Bridgestone distributor.

NOTE: Please read the Limited Warranty carefully before accepting a tire for adjustment. Customer satisfaction decisions are at the dealer's expense.

Authorized Bridgestone Distributor

1. The distributor receives the Bridgestone tire along with the adjustment documentation from the dealer for warranty adjustment consideration. Dealers should contact their distributor for warranty processing and to order a replacement tire or to replace inventory.
2. The distributor may return motorcycle tires, accompanied with adjustment documentation to the servicing Bridgestone Technical Service Center by freight collect. Prior approval from the Regional Technical Service Department MUST be obtained before shipping tires. Otherwise shipment will be rejected.
3. After receipt of both the adjustment forms and tire(s), the Bridgestone Regional Technical Service Department will inspect each tire and verify its condition and qualifications for consideration under the applicable warranty. Tires determined to be adjustable will be processed for credit to the distributor.
4. Upon approval by Bridgestone, the distributor's account will receive credit for the adjusted tires using the current price structure. If the tire was pro-rated, the distributor will receive credit for 50% of the current price. The distributor will also receive a handling commission for full and pro-rated adjustments.

Important Note: Every care has been taken to ensure that all information in the 2019 edition of the Motorcycle Tire Data Book is accurate and up to date. Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC, their wholesalers and dealers cannot accept any responsibility for mistakes or omissions. The information in this catalog supersedes all previous Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC catalogs.

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***For technical assistance or warranty
adjustment questions, please call:***

1-800-847-3272 (USA)

1-800-267-1318 (CANADA)

***Warranty information can be found at
www.BridgestoneMotorcycleTires.com***