

Save Money Buying Tires On-Line

If you need tires and don't mind putting them on yourself, you can find bargains on the internet.

In addition to car and light truck tires, you can find ATV, garden tractor, implement, RV and even tractor and construction tires online. Prices aren't always lower, however, so buyer beware.

Since most automotive tire dealers include mounting, balancing and even valve stems, be sure to add shipping, mounting and any needed supplies to the price quoted online in order to make an even comparison.

Here are a few Websites and the types of tires they feature:

1. www.onlinetires.com - Mostly automotive, but you can find other tires on this site.
2. www.ebay.com - Anything you need, including tractor tires.
3. www.treadsdirect.com - Discount prices on truck, RV, ATV, golf cart, forklift, and even aircraft tires.
4. www.bicycletires.com - Bicycle tires of all sizes.
5. www.victoriatire.com - Search by car, size, brand, and style. Features such brands as BF Goodrich, Michelin, Pirelli, and Bridgestone.
6. www.etires.com - 30-day money back warranty, combined with emergency road assistance.
7. www.snowblowertires.com - Snowblower Tires from Cedar Rapids Tire Co.
8. www.all-tires.com - All Tires Inc. specializes in Goodyear tires.
9. www.sellatire.com - Buy and sell tires through this online marketplace.
10. www.costire.com - Members of this tire-buying club get tires at cost. Brands like BF Goodrich, Cooper, Pirelli, more.
11. www.tires.com - A variety of online tire and wheel deals.
12. www.automotive.biglion.com/Tires_and_Wheels - Directory of online auto tire dealers and custom wheels stores.
13. www.carpartsplaza.com/tires.htm - Discount tires online for cars, light trucks, Jeeps, SUVs, vans or 4-WD's.
14. www.ameritire.com - Amerityre Corporation, manufacturer of AirRider flatfree tires.
15. www.citiesannex.com/auto_tire.htm - Bargain prices on auto tires.
16. www.citiesannex.com/pirelli.htm - Buy Pirelli tires at discount prices!
17. www.expressautoparts.com - Shop by vehicle year, model, and make for tires, replacement parts and accessories.
18. www.1000wheels.com/reasons.shtml - OEM tires, chrome and alloy wheels, hubcaps, rims, more. Some used wheels.
19. www.networktires.com - A network of dealers selling tires online.
20. www.autoguide.net/partsandservices/tires.shtml - Tires for cars, trucks and motorcycles.
21. www.autopartsplenty.com/tires_wheels.htm - Discount tires and wheels online. Michelin, Goodyear, BF Goodrich, Yokohama, Dunlop, Pirelli, Hoosier and more.

Reader Cautions Against Low-Cost Freon Replacements

Be careful when using low-cost hydrocarbon freon replacements, says Don Castner, owner of an auto repair shop in Knoxville, Tenn. Castner and a friend were recently engulfed in a ball of flames when a cigarette ignited gas that escaped from a can of refrigerant after the nozzle was knocked off.

Since then, he has refused to work on air conditioners charged with low-cost freon replacements and he has begun a mini-crusade to get the word out on potential dangers.

"People don't realize what's in this stuff. They can be highly flammable. Basically, they're propane," he says.

Castner is talking about low-priced alternatives to R-134a, which replaced R-12 freon when it was banned.

Mel Brown, Johnstown, Colo., says the lower-cost products are legal, easy to use, and often cool better than 134a. He sells Red Tek 12a.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says the lower-priced hydrocarbon refrigerants can only be used as a replacement gas in systems that have already been converted to R-134a. They've caught on fast

because they're cheaper. A 1-lb. can of one of the hydrocarbon replacements will replace 3 lbs. of the more expensive R-134a.

Fran Mougey of FM distributing, Enderlin, N.Dak., says sales of Glacier Gold hydrocarbon refrigerant have been doubling or tripling every year since he began selling it 5 years ago. As far as he knows, there's never been an accident handling the flammable gas.

Most of the potential for an accident occurs while opening the cans and filling the system. Many of the product cans are labeled highly flammable.

Mel Brown says a vehicle's gas tank probably poses a greater danger than the gas used in air conditioning systems. He thinks most of the safety complaints came from competitors. But he points out that it doesn't hurt to be careful and realize what's in those cans.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mel Brown, Red-Tek 12a, P.O. Box 580, Johnstown, Colo. 80534 (ph 970 587-2249; or Fran Mougey, Glacier Gold, 319 Broadway, Enderlin, N.Dak. 58027 (ph 888 437-3280).

22. www.gardentractortires.com - All kinds of garden tractor tires.

23. www.millertire.com - Hard-to-find tires, tubes, wheels, rims for antique tractors.

24. www.dickstires.com - Hundreds of used and slightly used tractor tires, especially for

old, classic, and antique tractors.

25. www.atvtire.com - ATV and small vehicle tires from Cedar Rapids Tire Co.

26. www.gardentillertires.com - Tires for your garden tiller from Dico/Titan, Carlisle and Goodyear.

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