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## Tire tread measurement penny test

Ever wonder how to quickly check if your tires are still good to go? The penny test is a quick and easy way to check tire tread depth without any fancy tools. It's simple, fast, and all you need is a penny. Whether you're a car enthusiast or just someone who wants to make sure their vehicle is safe, this little trick can be a lifesaver. Let's dive into how it works and why it's important.
**Key Takeaways**
The penny test is an easy method to check tire tread depth using just a penny. Insert a penny into the tire tread with Lincoln's head upside down; if you see his whole head, it's time for new tires. While convenient, the penny test has its limits; consider using a quarter for a more cautious approach.

Checking tread depth is crucial for safety, as worn tires can lead to accidents, especially in poor weather. Regular tire checks can prevent legal issues and help maintain vehicle performance. How the Penny Test Works
The penny test is a quick and easy way to check if your tire tread is too worn. All you need is a penny and a few minutes. Here's the deal: stick a penny into the tread grooves of your tire with Lincoln's head facing down and towards you. If you can see the top of Abe's head, it's time to think about getting new tires. That's because it means your tread depth is less than 2/32 of an inch, which is the bare minimum for safety. Why Use a Penny for Tread Depth
You might wonder why a penny is the go-to tool for this test. The answer is simple: it's cheap, accessible, and the distance from the top of Lincoln's head to the edge of the penny is exactly 2/32 of an inch. This makes it a handy reference point for checking whether your tread is worn down to the danger zone. Plus, who doesn't have a penny lying around?
Limitations of the Penny Test
While the penny test is super convenient, it's not perfect. By the time you can see the top of Lincoln's head, your tires are already pretty worn. In fact, some experts suggest using a quarter instead, which gives you a 4/32 inch measurement, offering a bit more safety margin. Plus, the penny test doesn't account for uneven wear across the tire, so be sure to check multiple spots. If your tread is uneven, it might be time to get your tires checked for alignment or pressure issues. Preparing for the Test
Before you start, make sure your car is parked on a flat surface and the tires are cool. It's a good idea to have a flashlight handy, especially if your tire treads are in shadow or if you're doing this in a dimly lit area. Check each tire individually—just because one tire looks fine, doesn't mean they all are. Inserting the Penny Correctly
Grab a penny and hold it with Lincoln's head down. Insert the penny into the tread groove of your tire. Make sure Lincoln's head is facing you. This is crucial for getting an accurate reading. Push the penny in until it touches the bottom of the groove. Interpreting the Results
Now, take a good look at how much of Lincoln's head you can see. If you can see all of it, your tread is worn down to less than 2/32 of an inch. It's time to think about new tires. If part of his head is obscured, your tread is still above that critical depth. But remember, safety should always come first, so don't ignore any signs of wear and tear. Even if just one area of your tire fails the penny test, it's a sign that you should replace it. Uneven wear can indicate other issues like misalignment or improper inflation, so keep an eye out for that too. Safety implications of Worn Tread
Tire tread isn't just about aesthetics; it's a key factor in driving safety. Worn-out treads can drastically reduce your vehicle's grip on the road. This is especially dangerous in wet or icy conditions where the risk of hydroplaning increases. Tread grooves are designed to channel water away from the tire, maintaining traction. Without adequate tread depth, your car could slip and slide, putting you and others at risk. Legal Requirements for Tread Depth
In many places, there are laws mandating minimum tread depths. For example, in the U.S., tires are considered legally worn out when they reach 2/32 of an inch. Driving with tires below this limit not only endangers safety but can also result in fines or penalties. It's crucial to regularly check your tires to ensure they meet legal standards. Impact on Vehicle Performance
Tires with good tread depth improve your car's performance. They provide better handling, shorter braking distances, and a smoother ride. On the flip side, worn tires can lead to increased fuel consumption and uneven tire wear. Keeping an eye on tread depth helps maintain your vehicle's efficiency and prolongs the life of your tires. Regularly checking your tire tread depth isn't just about following the rules; it's about ensuring your ride is safe and efficient. Don't wait until it's too late—make it a habit to inspect your tires. Using a Tread Depth Gauge
If you're looking for precision, a tread depth gauge is your best friend. This tool measures the tire tread in 32nds of an inch or millimeters, giving you an accurate assessment of your tire's condition. It's simple to use: just place the gauge into the tread grooves and note the reading. Since tire wear can be uneven, it's smart to check multiple spots on each tire. This method ensures you're not missing any areas that might be more worn than others. The Quarter Test Explained
The quarter test is another quick way to check your tire tread. It's similar to the penny test but uses a quarter instead. Insert the quarter into the tread with Washington's head facing down. If you can see the top of his head, your tread is less than 4/32 of an inch, and it's time to think about replacing your tires. This test gives you a bit more leeway than the penny test, as it indicates when your tires are nearing the end of their safe lifespan. Tread Wear Indicator Bars
Modern tires often come with built-in tread wear indicator bars. These are small, raised bars located between the tread patterns. When the tread wears down to the level of these bars, it's a clear sign that your tires need replacing. Checking these indicators is as easy as looking at your tires and seeing if the tread is flush with the bars. It's a straightforward way to keep an eye on tire health without any tools. Regularly checking your tire tread is crucial for safety and performance. While tools like gauges offer precision, simple tests like the quarter test provide quick insights. And don't forget those handy indicator bars that many tires have built-in. Keeping an eye on your tread can help prevent accidents and ensure your vehicle performs at its best. Signs of Uneven Tread Wear
Ever noticed your car pulling to one side or a weird vibration? That could be uneven tread wear talking. Uneven tread wear is a red flag that your tires might need some attention. Here's what to look for: Feathering: If the tread ribs feel smooth on one side and sharp on the other, that's feathering. Cupping: Dips or scalloped indentations on the tire surface. Bald Spots: Areas on the tire that are noticeably more worn than others. These signs often mean your tires aren't making full contact with the road, which can affect handling and safety. Understanding Tread Depth Measurements
Tire tread depth is usually measured in 32nds of an inch. New tires start with about 10/32" to 11/32" of tread. Once they hit 2/32", it's time to think about replacements. But hey, don't wait until the last minute. At 4/32", you should already be on the lookout for new tires, especially with wet or snowy weather on the horizon. Tread Depth (inches)
Action
10/32" - 11/32"
New Tire
4/32"
Monitor Closely
2/32"
Replace Tire
Consulting a Tire Professional
Sometimes it's best to call in the pros. If you're unsure about your tire's condition or if you spot any unusual wear patterns, a tire professional can help. They've got the tools and know-how to give you a solid answer. Plus, they can advise on the best tires for your driving style and conditions. Tires are your car's only contact with the road. Keeping them in good shape isn't just about following the rules; it's about keeping you and your passengers safe. Don't take chances with worn-out tires. Myths About Tread Depth and Safety
It's a common belief that if your tires pass the penny test, they're good to go. But here's the kicker: even if the tread is above 2/32 of an inch, it doesn't guarantee safety in all conditions. Many drivers think that as long as they can see the top of Lincoln's head on the penny, everything's fine. In reality, this old trick is just a starting point. Tread depth affects how well your car grips the road, especially in wet or icy weather. If your tread is shallow, you're at a higher risk of skidding. Misunderstandings About the Penny Test
A lot of folks assume the penny test is foolproof. It's simple, sure, but not comprehensive. The penny test only measures the most worn part of the tire, and it doesn't account for uneven wear. You should check multiple spots on each tire. If any part of the tread is below 2/32 of an inch, it's time to think about new tires. Also, uneven wear might mean you have other issues, like misalignment or improper inflation. Clarifying Legal Tread Depth Standards
Many people are in the dark about legal tread depth standards. In the U.S., the law requires at least 2/32 of an inch of tread depth. However, safety experts recommend replacing tires when the tread is at 4/32 of an inch, especially for wet conditions. These standards aren't just arbitrary numbers—they're there to keep you safe. So, don't just rely on passing the penny test; make sure you're meeting or exceeding these legal requirements. Maintaining Optimal Tire Health Beyond Tread Checks
Regular Tire Rotation and Alignment
Keeping your tires in top shape involves more than just checking the tread. One of the most important things you can do is rotate your tires regularly. This helps ensure even wear across all tires, extending their lifespan. Typically, you should rotate your tires every 5,000 to 8,000 miles. It's also a good idea to have your wheels aligned at least once a year or whenever you notice uneven tire wear or your car pulling to one side. Monitoring Tire Pressure
Checking your tire pressure might seem like a chore, but it's crucial for safety and fuel efficiency. Tires that are under-inflated can lead to poor handling and increased fuel consumption, while over-inflated tires can wear out unevenly. Here's a quick guide to keep in mind: Check tire pressure once a month and before long trips. Use a reliable tire pressure gauge. Follow the recommended pressure levels found in your vehicle's manual or on the driver's side door jamb. Recognizing Signs of Tire Damage
Even if your tread looks fine, other types of damage can still compromise your tires. Be on the lookout for: Bulges or blisters on the tire sidewall. Cracks or cuts in the tread or sidewall. Punctures from nails or other sharp objects. If you notice any of these issues, it's best to have a professional inspect your tires. They can determine if a repair is possible or if it's time for a replacement. Keeping up with these maintenance tips not only keeps you safe on the road but also saves money in the long run by extending the life of your tires. What is the penny test for tire tread?
The penny test is a simple way to check if your tire tread is too worn out. You put a penny into the tread groove with Lincoln's head upside down. If you can see all of Lincoln's head, it means the tread is less than 2/32 inch deep, and it's time to get new tires. Why do people use a penny to check tire tread?
People use a penny because it's a quick and easy tool to measure if the tread is too low. The distance from the top of Lincoln's head to the edge of the penny is 2/32 inch, which is the minimum safe tread depth. Are there any downsides to using the penny test?
Yes, the penny test only tells you if your tread is below 2/32 inch, which is already quite low. It's better to replace tires before they get this worn to stay safe, especially in bad weather. How often should I check my tire tread?
It's a good idea to check your tire tread every month or before long trips. Regular checks help you catch wear early and keep your tires safe. What other ways can I check my tire tread?
Besides the penny test, you can use a tread depth gauge, the quarter test, or look for tread wear indicator bars on your tires. When should I replace my tires?
You should replace your tires when the tread is worn down to 2/32 inch, or sooner if you notice uneven wear or damage. Always check with a tire professional if you're unsure. When it comes to checking tire tread, there are a number of methods that can help you know if it's time to replace a tire. Heavily worn tread will prevent a tire from performing as designed and can lead to unsafe driving conditions. One of the simplest, most common ways to check tread depth requires nothing more than a penny and a few moments of your time. In the United States, tire tread depth is measured in 32nds of an inch. New tires typically come with 10/32" or 11/32" tread depths, and some truck, SUV and winter tires may have deeper tread depths than other models. The U.S. Department of Transportation recommends replacing tires when they reach 2/32", and many states legally require tires to be replaced at this depth. The idea of the penny test is to check whether you've hit the 2/32" threshold. Here's how it works: Place a penny between the tread ribs on your tire. A "rib" refers to the raised portion of tread that spans the circumference of your tire. Tire tread is composed of several ribs. Turn the penny so that Lincoln's head points down into the tread. See if the top of his head disappears between the ribs. If it does, your tread is still above 2/32". If you can see his entire head, it may be time to replace the tire because your tread is no longer deep enough. When performing the penny tire test, remember not only to check each tire, but to check various places around each tire. Pay special attention to areas that look the most worn. Even if parts of your tread are deeper than 2/32", you should still replace the tire when any areas fail the penny test. Consistent wear around the whole tire is normal, but uneven tread wear could be a sign of improper inflation, wheel misalignment, or a variety of other things. If you see uneven tread wear, you should have a technician inspect your vehicle. OTHER WAYS TO CHECK TIRE TREAD
TREAD DEPTH GAUGE
A simple way to check your tire tread depth is by using a tread depth gauge. You can find tire tread depth gauges at your local auto parts store. There are many models available, but an inexpensive simple graduated probe gauge will work just fine. All you have to do is stick the probe into a groove in the tread and press the shoulders of the probe flat against the tread block and read the result. All gauges should measure in both 32nds of an inch and millimeters. TREAD WEAR INDICATOR BARS
Another indicator of worn out tread already lives in your tires themselves. Every performance, light truck, or medium commercial tire comes equipped with indicator bars (or wear bars) embedded between the tread ribs at 2/32". They're there to help you monitor tread depth and make decisions about tire replacement. Just look to see if the tread is flush with the indicator bars. If they are, it's time to replace the tire. DON'T WAIT UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE
While the penny tire test does deliver on what it promises - indicating whether tread has reached the legal limit - it may not be the best indicator of whether your tires are safe for the road. Tire performance can diminish significantly before your tread hits 2/32". Even though the law deems fit for safe driving may not prevent you from hydroplaning or losing control in rainy, slushy conditions. If you think your tires may be close to needing replacement, have them checked out by a licensed mechanic. Share - copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt - remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution - You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike - If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions - You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation. No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Checking tire tread depth is an easy way to ensure your tires are safe and have enough tread to provide proper traction. And speaking of easy, one of the fastest way to check it is through your penny. Although its not the most sophisticated way to check your tire's tread depth (as that would be through the gauge), it still gets the job done. Take a penny and turn it so that Lincoln's head is facing down. Insert the penny into the tire tread. See if the Lincoln's head is visible or not. If it is, then that means your tire has less than 2/32" of tread depth left. If the top of Lincoln's head is not visible, but the hairline of his head is visible, your tire tread depth is between 2/32 and 4/32 of an inch. Replace your tires as soon as possible if it's less than 2/32", if it's in between 2 and 4/32", consider replacing your tires any time soon. Important note: When measuring the tread with your penny, make sure you check at 3 different places on each tire, the central area of the tread and on each shoulder, this will help you in knowing whether your tires are wearing off evenly or not. If they are not that that's the sign of either misalignment, or not having the same air pressure in all tires. When it comes to tire tread depth, it's important to keep in mind that the standard of 2/32 inches is considered to be on the conservative side. In fact, other industry experts recommend adhering to the 4/32 tire tread percentage rule for maximum safety and performance. Waiting for the tread depth to reach the minimum of 2/32 inches can be risky, particularly when driving conditions are wet or slippery. Additionally, it's worth noting that according to a commonly used tire wear indicator chart in the United States, the legal limit for tread depth is 1.66 mm which is close to 2/32 inches, but the equivalent value of 2/32 inches in millimeters is slightly less. While doing the penny test, do keep in mind, that your tire may be going through some different kind of wear patterns (mentioned here). And so to check that, measure the tread depth at various locations, as I've already mentioned above. For example if you have been running your tires with slightly higher pressure, the central part of the tread would wear off quickly compared to shoulders. And if the pressure was not ample, the shoulders wear faster. Moreover, also make sure that penny test only measures tread depth, and it can not tell you the overall condition of the tire, where some tread wear factors include sidewall bulging, cuts, chips, damage to the bead area and so on. So while doing the test, make sure you analyze the tire's tread as well by closely monitoring. If you have a quarter instead of penny, you can also make it work. In this case, you simply place a quarter into the tread and this time, with George Washington's head facing down. And if his head is not visible while doing so, then that would mean the tread depth is more than 4/32", which means you can use your tires for a little bit more time. Overall penny test is just a quick test which gives you a rough idea of tread depth. So its wise if you invest in a gauge. There are a lot of cheap options available, and they come in both digital and analog displays, measuring tires tread depth in multiple units as well including millimeters and inches. Also note that some tires have tread wear indicators preinstalled in the tread. These are basically raised bumps located in the tread grooves. And when the tire's tread is worn down to the level/height of these indicators, it's time to replace the tire. (Continental tires are famous with them, FYI). Note: Although all these tests including measuring with gauge can tell you a lot about the wear of your tires, they are still not a substitute for regular maintenance and inspections by a professional. So make sure you rotate your tires after every 5k miles, if you have on-road tires, and 3 to 4K miles, if you have all-terrain tires. Also you should get your tires aligned after every 6 months and of course there's balancing as well, (which is though always included in tire's rotation). All these things improve your tire's tread life. It does not matter whether it's the Lincoln's head or George's. These test only give you a rough idea in determining tire tread depth. Though if you must, just know that if you insert both of these coins down and their heads are not visible, that in case of penny, that would mean, the tread depth is less than 2/32". And in case of quarter, it would mean, the tread depth is more than 4/32". So you can get a rough estimate, if you are in a hurry by using both of these as 2/32" means replacing your tires right away, where 4/32" means, that you should be replacing tires in the coming time. Though compared to both, its much better if you consider getting a tread measuring gauge. Download Article Download Article
The penny test is an easy way to check the tread on your vehicle's tires. Just place a penny with Lincoln's head upside down between 2 ribs on your tire. If you see his entire head, it's time for new tires. Proper tread allows your vehicle to gain traction and wick water away from the tires. If your tread is worn down, your vehicle is more likely to slide around in the rain and get stuck in the snow or mud. Your tires are also more likely to burst if you drive on weathered tread, which can lead to a crash. While the penny test will let you know if your tread is dangerously low, you may be better off doing this test with a quarter if you want to be more proactive about replacing your tires—especially if you live in an area that gets a lot of rain.[1] Place a penny in between 2 ribs on your tire with Lincoln's head pointing down into the tread. If only part of his head is covered, it means your tires are in good shape. If you see his entire head, your tread is 2/32" or deeper and it's time for a tire replacement. For popular FAQs on checking tire tread with a penny, jump to more common questions. 1 Do the penny test every month to make sure your tires are safe. Your tread wears down as you drive, so checking it every month is key to staying safe on the road. This test involves sliding a penny in between the tread on your tires to measure how worn down your tires are. By holding Abraham Lincoln's portrait towards the hubcap and checking how high the rubber reaches on the coin, you can tell if your tires need to be replaced. Monitor the tread using the penny test to make sure your tread doesn't get dangerously low. The ideal tread for most tires is around 10/32 inch (0.79 cm), which is roughly the distance from the top edge of a penny to Abraham Lincoln's eyes when he's right-side up. The distance between the top of Lincoln's hair and the top edge of the coin is 2/32 in (0.16 cm), which is when you need to replace your tires. In the United States, tire tread is typically measured in 32nds of an inch. 2 Grab a clean penny to perform the test on your tires. Dig around in your wallet, purse, or coin jar for a clean, shiny penny. If the penny is too dirty, it may be hard to get an accurate measurement with your coin. Variation: If you live in a rainy area, drive a vehicle with larger tires, or you want to be more proactive when it comes to replacing your tires, grab a quarter instead of a penny. On a quarter, the distance between the top of George Washington's hair and the tip of the quarter is 4/32 in (0.32 cm), which gives you an extra 2/32 in (0.16 cm) of breathing room.[2] Advertisement 3 Rotate the penny so Abe's head is pointing at the tire. You can start on any tire you'd like. Turn the penny in your hand so that Abraham Lincoln's portrait is facing you and his hair is pointing down at the center of the tire.[3] If you're using a quarter, do the same thing with George Washington's face. 4 Slide the penny in between the tread to measure it. The tread is the widest groove in the middle of your tire. It wraps around your tire, parallel to the sides of the rubber, and your vehicle likely has multiple treads. Choose any tread to start with and slide the penny in between it so the edge of the coin rests directly against the space between the tread.[4] Keep Abe Lincoln's hair pointing towards the center of the tire. It doesn't matter if you do this on the side or top of the tire. Just choose an area where you'll be able to see the penny. 5 See how high the rubber gets on Abraham Lincoln's portrait. Note the location where the rubber that sticks up past the side of the penny sits in relation to Abe's portrait. This will give you a general estimate of how worn down your tread is. 6 Check the tread on other portions of the same tire. Once you've noted where the rubber meets the coin, pull the coin out of the tread. Then, repeat this process on 2-3 other lengths of tread on the same tire. Finish the tire by repeating this process 2-3 times on the other sides of the same tire to find any inconsistencies. Each time you check another portion of the tire, rotate the coin so that Abraham Lincoln's hair is always pointing towards the center of the rim. 7 Repeat the penny test on your other tires to make sure they're safe. Once you've finished checking your first tire, work your way around the vehicle and check the other 3 tires. Repeat the entire process by sliding the penny in between the tread on different portions of the rubber.[5] If you've never had a tire replaced, the tread should be identical on all 4 of your tires. However, if you've had your rear tires replaced or you had a single tire replaced after a blowout, the tread may be different. Advertisement 1 Purchase new tires if you can see the top of Lincoln's head. If at point during your inspection you can see the top of Abraham Lincoln's hair when the penny is in the tread, your tires need to be replaced. Drive your vehicle to the mechanic or auto shop on a day when there's no rain and at a time when there's very little traffic. Drive slowly and take it easy. At the shop, pay to have your tires replaced.[6] For uniformity reasons, it's best to replace all of your tires at the same time if you can. This will avoid uneven wear and tear on your vehicle. If you're using a quarter, get your tires replaced when you can see the top of George Washington's hair. This is roughly 4/32 in (0.32 cm), but the goal of using a quarter is to replace the tires before the tread becomes dangerously low. 2 Continue driving on your tires if Lincoln's hair is completely obscured. If your penny goes deep enough into the tread that the rubber meets Lincoln's eyes and his hair is covered by the rubber, you're good to go. Your tires still have life in them and you can continue driving safely.[7] When the penny is right-side up, Lincoln's eyes are roughly 10/32 in (0.79 cm) from the top edge of the coin. For the quarter test, so long as the rubber meets George Washington's forehead, you're good. This is roughly 12/32 in (0.95 cm). 3 Get an alignment if the tread is different on one or more of the tires. If you noticed that Lincoln's portrait was meeting the rubber at different locations on one or more of your tires, it means that your tires aren't wearing out evenly. This is usually a sign of an alignment issue, but you must have a mechanic take a closer look. Drive your vehicle over to your mechanic and explain the problem.[8] If your vehicle needs a realignment, it's no big deal. This often costs \$50-100 and can be done in under 2 hours if the mechanic isn't busy. Unfortunately, this isn't a repair you can make from home since it requires an alignment rack. 4 Replace your tires every 6-10 years, even if the tread appears fine. While the tread is generally a good indicator of your tire's health, the rubber breaks down over time on its own. Read your vehicle's instruction manual to see how often you need to replace the tires. On most vehicles, it's either every 6 or 10 years.[9] If your tires are past their expiration date, replace them even if the tread looks fine.[10] Tip: If you aren't sure how old your tires are but they were made after 2000, look for a string of embossed letters and numbers printed directly on the tire. Then, inspect the last 4 numbers in this row. The first 2 digits are the week and the last 2 digits are the year that your tire was manufactured. For example, if your tire has "2415," it was made on the 24th week of 2015.[11] Advertisement Is the penny test for tires accurate?
According to some studies, the penny test for tires is outdated, especially if rain and wet roads are a concern for you.[15] Instead, use a quarter to test your tire tread depth, and replace your tires when they reach 4/32 of an inch or deeper. What is the quarter trick for tires?
Place a quarter into the tread groove with Washington's head facing downward. If you can see the top of his head, it means your tires are worn below 4/32 of an inch and you need to replace them.[16] What is a safe tire tread depth?
Brand new tires have a tread depth of 10/32 or 11/32 of an inch, but good tire tread depth is 6/32 of an inch or deeper. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, you need to replace your tires when the tread reaches 2/32 of an inch.[17] Thanks Advertisement Thanks Thanks Advertisement
Co-authored by: Automotive Tire & Repair Specialist and CEO of Community Tire Pros & Auto Repair, with ten locations throughout Phoenix, Glendale, Yuma, and Casa Grande, Arizona. Howard specializes in full-service auto repair and tire replacement and care for domestic/imported vehicles and large trucks. Howard's dedication to Community Tire Pros & Auto Repair has earned their team multiple awards and features including the 2021 Phoenix Magazine AZ State 48 "Best of the Best!", the 2020 "Best of Phoenix" in Auto Repair, the 2013 Master SBD award, the 2013 National "Top Shop" award by Tire Review, the 2012 Diversity Champions Phx Business Journal, the 2009 BBB Ethics award, the 2008 Phx Chamber of Commerce Impact Award -" Small Business of the Year", and the 2008 ASU Spirit of Enterprise award. Howard is often referred to as "The Car Guy" for local TV stations and is a regular on TV's Channel 3 Sunday, Good Morning Arizona monthly. This article has been viewed 351,419 times. Co-authors: 13 Updated: February 24, 2025 Views: 351,419 Categories: Featured Articles | Tires and Suspension Print Send fan mail to authors Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 351,419 times. I knew about the penny test on a tire. But it has been so long I forgot how to read the penny upside down to test and see if the tire needs replacing. I'm very impressed with the information you gave. And you really went out of your way with full details. Thank you. "... more Share your story