

## Inflate Tires

### Introduction

Check all of your car's tires once a month or whenever they look low. Low tire pressure can lower your gas mileage, make your car handle poorly and even lead to blowouts.

### Instructions

**Difficulty:** Moderately Easy

### Things You'll Need

- [Tire-pressure Gauge](#)

### Steps

---

#### Step One

You can't tell whether a tire has the correct air pressure just by looking at it. Always use a tire-pressure gauge. You can buy a good-quality tire-pressure gauge at your local auto-parts store. If you don't have one, the pressurized-air machines at many gas stations and garages have gauges, although they might not always be accurate or functioning.

---

#### Step Two

Find the air-pressure specifications for your car's tires. You'll usually find them on a sticker located on the driver's side doorjamb. Or the sticker may be in the glove box or trunk. Don't look at the tire's sidewall for the air-pressure specifications, as it lists the maximum pressure for the tire.

---

#### Step Three



[Click to enlarge](#)

Unscrew the plastic cap on the air valve. Put it in your pocket so you don't lose it.

---

#### Step Four

Press the tire-pressure gauge against the valve and hold it down firmly (see illustration). If you hear a hissing noise, you are letting air out. Press down harder.

---

#### Step Five

Read the measurement on the gauge.

---

#### Step Six

Add air as needed (see [How to Inflate Your Tires](http://www.ehow.com/how_112754_inflate-tires.html)), but don't overfill the tire.

## Introduction

Full-service gas stations are a thing of the past. You can't tell whether your tires need air by looking at them or even by kicking them. It's up to you to check and add air to your tires monthly.

## Instructions

**Difficulty:** Moderately Easy

### Things You'll Need

- Gas Station or Garage with Pressurized Air
- [Tire-pressure Gauge](#)

## Steps

---

### Step One

Go to a gas station or garage that has pressurized air with a gauge.

---

### Step Two

Park your car so you can reach all four tires with the air hose.

---

### Step Three

Find the air-pressure specifications for your car's tires. Look for a sticker located on the driver's side doorjamb or in the glove box or trunk.

---

### Step Four

Unscrew the plastic cap on the air valve. Put it in your pocket so you don't lose it.

---

### Step Five

Check the air pressure using either your own tire-pressure gauge or the one on the gas station air pump. Press the gauge against the valve and hold it down firmly. If you hear a hissing noise, you are letting air out. Press down harder.

---

### Step Six

Add air as necessary. Press the air pump hose on the valve while squeezing the lever on the end of the hose.

---

### Step Seven

Check the air pressure with your gauge, or use the one on the air pump hose.

---

**Step Eight**

Deflate the tires if you accidentally overfill them. Press down on the small needle in the center of the valve to let air out. Most tire-pressure gauges have a small knob for this purpose, but a fingernail or a pen will do the trick.