

Tyres

An update on our Best Buys

BEST BUYS

All tyres we've tested are safe. Our Best Buys offer the best balance between essentials, such as grip, and desirables, such as quietness and comfort.

Here's a guide to how tyres are classified, using the code 195/65 R15 H as an example.

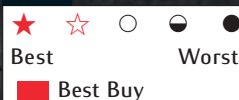
195 – tyre width, in millimetres. **65** – tyre's sidewall profile: height as percentage of width. **R** – radial (not cross-ply). **15** – diameter of wheel rim, in inches.

H – speed rating, which must match, or exceed, the car's top speed. H is 210kph/130mph.

Other letters include T (190kph/118mph); V (240kph/149mph); W (270kph/168mph).

Never fit tyres of a different size or speed rating from that given by the car maker, and don't mix tyre types without checking the handbook.

KEY



SCORE

This ignores price and is based on:

Wet grip	35%
Dry grip	20%
Wear	20%
Comfort and noise	15%
Rolling resistance	10%

WHICH? EXTRA

For full results from our latest and previous tests, see www.which.co.uk/tyres

TABLE NOTES

Specification
Price range/availability
We surveyed national chains. For sizes marked *, we also surveyed regional and independent stockists. G = good (available in over 70 per cent of outlets we checked); F = fair (in 40 to 70 per cent of outlets); P = poor (in less than 40 per cent of outlets).

Performance
Dry roads Handling assessment on a dry road. **Wet roads** Handling assessment on a wet road.

Tyres	Specification		Performance						Score
	Price range (£)	Availability	Dry roads	Wet roads	Comfort	Noise	Rolling resistance	Wear	(%)
165/70 R14 T (superminis, medium cars)									
Continental EcoContact 3	32-44	G	☆	★	☆	☆	○	○	67
Bridgestone B330 Evo	39-51	F	☆	★	○	☆	○	○	66
175/65 R14 T* (superminis, small MPVs)									
Pirelli P3000 Energy	40-53	G	☆	☆	○	○	○	★	70
Continental EcoContact 3	37-54	G	☆	☆	○	○	☆	☆	67
185/60 R14 H (small cars, medium cars)									
Continental EcoContact 3	41-52	G	☆	★	○	○	★	○	67
Michelin Energy XH 3	57-64	G	☆	☆	○	○	★	○	67
195/65 R15 H* (medium cars, large cars)									
Bridgestone Turanza ER 300	58-78	F	☆	☆	☆	☆	○	☆	70
Goodyear Hydragrip	54-70	P	☆	☆	☆	☆	☆	○	66
195/65 R15 V (medium cars, large cars)									
Fulda Carat Attiro	58	P	★	☆	☆	☆	○	○	69
Uniroyal Rallye 540	57-64	F	☆	☆	☆	☆	○	○	69
Continental Premium Contact	62-83	G	☆	☆	☆	☆	○	○	68
Goodyear Eagle NCT 5	59-71	G	★	☆	☆	☆	○	☆	67
Dunlop SP Sport 01	63-75	G	★	☆	☆	☆	○	○	66
Pirelli P7	62-80	G	☆	☆	☆	☆	○	○	66
205/55 R16 V (medium cars, large cars)									
Bridgestone Potenza RE 720	100	F	★	☆	☆	○	○	☆	72
Michelin Pilot Exalto	100-112	G	★	☆	☆	☆	○	○	71
Firestone Firehawk TZ200	88	F	☆	☆	☆	☆	○	○	68
Pirelli P7	72-98	F	☆	☆	☆	☆	○	☆	68
225/45 R17 W (medium cars, large cars)									
Continental Sport Contact 2	118-147	G	★	☆	☆	○	○	☆	70
Goodyear Eagle F1 GS-D	126-127	F	★	☆	☆	☆	○	☆	70