

02062024

TIRE WEAR AND SHOCK ABSORBERS: HOW TO MAXIMIZE YOUR TIRE LIFE & INCREASE UPTIME

The Technology and Maintenance Council's recommended practice (TMC RP643) states:

"Fleets have found it beneficial to install new shock absorbers when installing new tires, to maximize tire life."

TMC Recommended Practice

Proposed RP 643A (T)

VMRS 016-008-000

AIR-RIDE SUSPENSION MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

Tires and shock absorbers work together to absorb and minimize the detrimental effects to vehicle stability and braking caused by harsh road conditions. Shock absorbers wear out over time just like tires. Under normal conditions, shocks stroke an average of 1,750 times per every mile

driven; that is 175 million times at 100,000 miles! They are constantly damping the road bumps allowing the suspension to glide over potholes, giving drivers the smoothest ride possible, and protecting the tire from high frequency wheel bounce.

TIRE CUPPING is caused by wheel bounce, which occurs when shock absorbers are worn. It is an uneven wear pattern of alternating hills and valleys in the tread area. When there is cupping, you might notice a slight rumbling or thumping sound as the vehicle moves.

TIRE CUPPING:

Uneven tire wear pattern caused by wheel bounce from worn shock absorbers



Often when tires show symptoms of wear or failure, they are the only items that are replaced.

Unfortunately, this is only half the equation to ensure the new tires are not worn out too soon.

Pairing new tires with old shocks will continue to cause cupping almost immediately! Pairing new tires with new shocks helps extend the tire's life span by eliminating wheel bounce.

Additionally, **shocks are the last line of defense for your air springs!** Air springs have a greater chance of pulling apart when worn shocks are present.



SCAN TO WATCH!

Watch Gabriel's video on Tire & Air Spring Life by scanning the QR code or visiting [AnswerGarage.com/TireAirSpring](https://www.answergarage.com/TireAirSpring)

