8. US DOT Tire Identification Number (TIN). This begins with the letters DOT and indicates that the tire meets all federal standards. The next two numbers or letters are the plant code where the tire was manufactured, the last 4 numbers are the date of manufacture. For example, if the number was 3108, the tire was made in the 31st week of 2008. The other numbers are marketing codes used at the manufacturer's discretion. This information can be used to contact consumers if a tire defect requires a recall.
9. **M+S** or **M/S** indicates that the tire has been designed with some capability for mud and snow.
10. The number of plies in both the tread area, and the sidewall area, indicates how many layers of rubber-coated material make up the structure of the tire. Information is also provided on the type of materials used.
11. Wear rate indicator: A tire rated at 400, for example, will last longer than a tire rated at 200.
12. The traction rating grades a tire's performance when stopping on a wet road surface. The higher the grade the better the braking performance. The grades from highest to lowest are, **AA**, **A**, **B** and **C**.
13. The maximum load which can be carried by the tire.
14. Heat resistance grading. The tire's resistance to heat is grade **A**, **B** or **C**, with **A** indicating the greatest resistance to heat. This grading is provided for a correctly inflated tire, which is being used within its speed and loading limits.
15. The maximum inflation pressure for the tire. This pressure should not be used for normal driving. See **190, TIRE CARE**.

SPEED RATINGS

Rating	Speed, mph (km/h)
Q	99 (160)
R	106 (170)
S	112 (180)
T	118 (190)
U	124 (200)
H	130 (210)
V	149 (240)
W	168 (270)
Y	186 (300)

TIRE CARE

⚠WARNING

Do not drive the vehicle if a tire is damaged, excessively worn, or incorrectly inflated. A tire in such a condition may catastrophically fail and cause an accident.

⚠WARNING

Avoid contaminating the tires with vehicle fluids as they may cause damage to the tire and cause a tire failure, which can result in an accident.

⚠WARNING

Avoid spinning the wheels. The forces released can damage the structure of the tire and cause it to fail.

⚠WARNING

If wheel spin is unavoidable due to a loss of traction (in deep snow, for example), do not exceed the 30 mph (50 km/h) point on the speedometer. Do not allow anyone to stand near, or directly behind a tire that might spin.