

## **Run-Flat Tyre Information Sheet**

Essentially a run-flat tyre is a self-supporting tyre with a very different construction to that of a conventional pneumatic tyre.

The sidewall is made of thicker rubber and has been reinforced to make it stiffer. It's this section that will maintain its shape and strength even in the event of a total loss of air pressure.

The treaded face of the tyre that contacts the road is the same as a normal tyre. Therefore, they will wear at a similar rate to standard tyres and should be checked in the same way for condition and tread wear regularly.

Once a run-flat tyre suffers a puncture it can only be driven at a reduced speed and only for a limited time i.e. 50mph for 50 miles (this differs slightly between different brands/design of run-flat tyres). This means that there is no requirement to attempt to change a wheel in dangerous locations, at any time of the day in any weather.

It is not always immediately noticeable that a puncture has occurred and the recommendation by all tyre manufacturers and fitters is they should only be fitted to vehicles that are equipped with a tyre pressure monitoring system. This will alert the driver to a loss in pressure so that they can drive within the limits of their tyre (since November 2014, all new passenger vehicles sold in the European Union must be equipped with a tyre pressure monitoring system).

One of the negative points with run-flat tyres is upon being punctured they should not be repaired therefore incurring the cost of a new tyre.

Tyre sealant is not acceptable for use by the licensed trade within Halton as it cannot be used for punctures over 4mm in size and cannot be used on any puncture to the sidewall of the tyre. Run-flat tyres do not have these issues regarding the size or location of the puncture.

All tyres sold within the European Union must comply with EU Directive 92/23/EEC which sets out the standards of tyres used on most road going vehicles (all vehicles licensed by Halton Borough Council fall within the stated category of vehicle).

Run-flat tyres can be identified from a number of markings on the sidewall like RSC (R-un flat S-ystemC-omponent), or with one of the below (but not limited to):

Bridgestone= RTF (Run Flat Tyre)  
Dunlop= DSST (Dunlop Self-Supporting Technology)  
Firestone= RTF (Run Flat Tyre)  
Goodyear= EMT (Extended Mobility Technology)  
Kumho= XRP  
Michelin= ZP (Zero Pressure)  
Pirelli RFT= (Run Flat Technology)  
Yokohama= Run Flat