

Training

Servicing tires and rims should only be performed by trained personnel using proper tools and following specific procedures. Servicing tires and rims can be extremely dangerous and failure to follow these warnings could lead to serious injury or death.

Any person assigned to service rim wheel assemblies must be able to demonstrate and maintain the ability to service rim wheel assemblies safely, including (but not limited to):

- handling rim wheel assemblies,
- demounting tires (including deflation),
- installing and removing rim wheel assemblies,
- inspecting and identifying rim parts,
- mounting tires (including tire inflation with the required safeguards),
- inflating a tire on a rim assembly while it is mounted on the vehicle,
- using a restraining device or barrier,
- standing outside the trajectory path during inflation of the tire, and
- inspecting the rim wheel assembly following inflation of the tire.

Several types of tire changing equipment are available. Installers should be fully trained in the correct operating procedures and safety instructions for the specific machine being used. Always read and understand any manufacturer's warning contained in the product literature or attached to the equipment.

Slips or Falls

Personal injury can result from slips or falls. DO NOT leave tools or parts laying around the work area and clean up all spilled fluids immediately.

Pinch Points

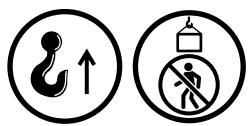
Keep loose clothing and fingers away from pinch areas to prevent pinching and crushing.

Eye Protection

To avoid eye injury, always wear protective glasses or face shield when using any equipment, a hammer, or similar tool. Chips and debris can fly off objects when struck. Make sure no one can be injured by flying debris before striking any object.

Proper Techniques

To prevent personal injury, always use proper lifting techniques or mechanized lifting aids to move heavy objects, assemblies, and parts. DO NOT attempt to lift objects that are too heavy.

Hoist Awareness

When a hoist is used to lift any part or assembly, stand clear of the area under the part being raised. Make sure the lifting cables and other lifting devices are strong enough to support the part.

Eye Protection

To avoid eye injury, always wear protective glasses or face shield. Make sure no one can be injured by flying objects or debris when using tools or working on the equipment or the vehicle.



Air Pressure

Personal injuries can occur as a result of using pressurized air. Maximum air pressure at the nozzle must be below 205 kPa (30 psi) for cleaning purposes. Wear protective clothing, protective glasses, and a protective face shield when using pressure air or when releasing pressure air from a tire.



Protective Gear

To avoid serious personal injury, always wear proper protective gear, such as hard hats, safety glasses, gloves, steel toe shoes, and hearing protection when servicing tires and rims.



Matching Tires, Rims, and Rim Parts

Always use approved tire and rim combinations, sizes, contours, and tapers. Most tires will fit on more than one rim width. Always use the correct tire for the rim.

There is a danger of serious injury or death if a tire of one bead diameter is installed on a rim with a different diameter. Always replace a tire with another tire of exactly the same bead diameter designation and suffix letters.

Example:

- Mount a 16 inch tire on a 16 inch rim.
- Never mount a 16 inch tire on a 16.1 inch or 16.5 inch rim.
- Mount a 16.5 inch tire on a 16.5 inch rim.
- Never mount a 16.5 inch tire on a 16 inch or 16.1 inch rim.

Repairing Tires and Rims

DO NOT make any repairs to a tire unless the repairs are authorized and recommended by the tire industry and/or tire manufacturer.

Never drive on an improperly repaired tire, which may cause further damage and eventual tire failure resulting in personal injury or death.

Never repair a tire without removing the tire from the rim assembly and never use a tube as a substitute for a tire repair or replacement. Always use an inside patch and a plug to repair a tire unless the hole is too small to insert a plug. DO NOT use a plug without an inside patch to repair a tire.

Never repair a tire with less tread than the tread wear indicators (where available), with a puncture larger than 6.4 mm (.25 in) diameter, and/or with damage outside the tread or sidewall area. These tires must be replaced because they cannot be safely repaired.

DO NOT attempt to repair a tire using an aerosol fixer to inflate and seal the tire. An aerosol fixer may contain highly volatile gas that can be ignited by an excessive heat source, flame, or sparks. Any tire with an aerosol fixer must be removed from all heat sources and be completely deflated before removing the tire from the rim.

Tire Changing Equipment / Tools

Several types of tire changing equipment are available and service technicians must be fully trained in the correct safety procedures and instructions for any specific tire changing machine. Always read and understand any warnings contained in the manufacturer's manuals or attached to the equipment.

If used, keep a firm grip on tire irons. They may spring back, resulting in personal injury.

When using a bead breaker, always stand to one side of the rim to maintain control of the bead breaker and DO NOT hold the bead breaker when breaking the tire bead. If the bead breaker is not seated properly and flies off the rim, it could cause serious injury or death.