

NTSD-12-009

April 19, 2021

Recommendations on the Proper Use and Handling of Certain Nitto® Tires

This advisory supersedes NTSD-09-002, dated October 2, 2009, and applies only to the following products:

**All NT555®R All NT555®RII All NT01™ All NT05®R
NT555®G2 (Sizes with U.T.Q.G. 200AA A)
NT05® (Sizes with U.T.Q.G. 140AA A)
Trail Grappler® SxS**

This advisory addresses the proper use and handling of these tires in colder climates. Tires exposed to temperatures below 15°F (-9°C) will lose rubber compound flexibility. Under certain conditions, it may even experience cracking (see image below).



The rubber compounds used in these tires have unique properties that, when compared to other tires, can cause them to lose some of their flexibility when used or handled in conditions below 15°F (-9°C). This loss in flexibility can lead to potential cracking and other damage to the tire.

TO MINIMIZE THE CHANCES OF THIS HAPPENING, CONSUMERS AND INSTALLERS ARE ADVISED TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Do not move or operate the car with these tires in conditions below 15°F (-9°C). **ALWAYS INSPECT FOR SIGNS OF CRACKING! NEVER USE TIRES THAT HAVE CRACKED!**
2. Avoid moving these tires in conditions below 15°F (-9°C).
3. Before mounting or dismounting, store these tires for at least 24 hours in a temperature-controlled environment of 68°F (20°C) or warmer, and **ALWAYS INSPECT FOR SIGNS OF CRACKING! NEVER USE TIRES THAT HAVE CRACKED!**
4. Remove these tires from the vehicle and deflate to half the normal air pressure during prolonged periods of non-use or storage.

For more information, please contact Nitto Tire U.S.A. Inc.'s Consumer Relations Department at (888) 529-8200.

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