

FUELED BY ENTHUSIASTS¹ December 1, 2011

Replacing Original Equipment (OE) Runflat Tires with Four Non-Runflat Tires

Nitto® recommends that runflat tires be replaced with runflat tires in order to maintain the runflat and emergency mobility capabilities of the vehicle.

However, if a customer requests that their original equipment runflat tires be replaced with non-runflat tires, it may be permitted so long as the following guidelines are followed:

- All runflat tires are replaced with appropriate non-runflat tires on all wheel positions at the same time.
- The replacement non-runflat tire must not interfere, render inaccurate, or make inoperable the vehicle OE Tire Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS).

WARNING

Never mix runflat tires with non-runflat tires unless in an emergency situation on a limited, temporary basis. The non-runflat tire(s) should be replaced with a runflat tire as soon as possible.

The additional guidelines pertain to specific scenarios as listed below:

For OE Tire Size Applications

- The replacement non-runflat tires are of the same size, inflation pressure, load capacity, and speed rating as noted on the vehicle placard and/or tire inflation pressure label.
- The replacement non-runflat tire is compatible with the OE wheel that the original runflat tires were mounted on. If the OE wheels have installed inserts in the air chamber as part of the runflat system, they are not compatible with non-runflat tires.
- The replacement non-runflat tire speed rating must be equal to or greater than what is specified by the vehicle manufacturer if the speed capability is to be maintained. If the replacement tire has a lower speed capability than that

specified by the vehicle manufacturer, the vehicle's speed must be restricted to that of the replacement tire.

For Plus-Sizing Applications

- The replacement non-runflat tire load carrying capacity is equal to or greater than the load-carrying capacity of the OE tire size at the pressure indicated on the vehicle tire information placard.
- Inflation pressure may need to be adjusted from the OE pressure to meet the above requirement. Do not inflate tires over the maximum inflation pressure molded on the sidewall.
- The replacement non-runflat tire speed rating must be equal to or greater than what is specified by the vehicle manufacturer if the speed capability is to be maintained. If the replacement tire has a lower speed capability than that specified by the vehicle manufacturer, the vehicle's speed must be restricted to that of the replacement tire.
- The replacement non-runflat tire is compatible with the replacement wheel. Specific wheels that are intended for runflat applications (i.e. wheel inserts or runflat-system modified wheels) are not compatible with non-runflat tires.
- See "Proper Selection of Tires" in the Nitto Limited Warranty & Owner's Manual for more information

NOTE

Before replacing *runflat tires with non-runflat* tires, <u>ALWAYS</u> refer to and follow the vehicle manufacturer's replacement tire restrictions and recommendations. *Customers should be made aware that selecting non-runflat tires can have the following effects:*

- The vehicle's suspension may have been adapted to suit the individual characteristics of runflat tires. Possible changes to vehicle handling, stability and/or performance may be noticed.
- Loss of the vehicle's runflat and emergency mobility capabilities. To maintain mobility, the customer will need to acquire additional equipment.
- Customer will be required to depend solely on the vehicle TPMS for notification of tire pressure loss, and will have to rely on roadside assistance for emergency help.
- Inapplicability of the runflat tires' care and maintenance instructions in the vehicle owner's manual.

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

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12/2011 Rev. 1 *Item No. 12-017* 1M