

Auto tips

Snow tire tops radial

By PATRICK KELLY

Many motorists who have new cars equipped with radial tires are now asking they need to put on snow tires this winter. The answer is that radial tires are no substitute for snow tires, according to new findings by the National Safety Council.

Tests conducted by the Council's Committee on Winter Driving Hazards show that snow tires provide more traction over a reasonably wide range of snow-covered road conditions than conventional radial tires that do not have a snow tread.

These tests also indicated that the range of performance of the radial tires was quite broad, in some cases exceeding but in some cases even poorer than some conventional highway tires.

In these tests, seven brands of radial tires were compared with bias-belted highway tires and bias-belted snow tires. Both peak and spinning traction were measured with the vehicle standing still and also moving forward at a speed of 5 m.p.h.

SNOW CONDITIONS ranged from approximately one inch of medium-packed snow to as much as eight inches of loose snow.

In an earlier test program, the committee found that radial tires offered no advantage over conventional tires in either stopping, traction or cornering performance on glare ice.

The current snow tests were undertaken to help municipalities decide whether to modify their snow ordinances to permit radial tires in lieu of snow tires.

"Considering the outcome of these tests and earlier findings by the council, it is obvious that conventional radial tires (without a snow tread) are not a substitute for snow tires," a council spokesman concluded.

"Motorists should still be advised to use snow tires for mild-to-medium snow and ice conditions and to use reinforced tire chains for severe snow and ice conditions," he said.

SUMMARIZING the council's previous test findings: conventional snow tires provide only a small improvement in pulling ability on glare ice although they produce half again as much pulling ability as regular tires in loose snow. Studded tires are appreciably more effective on ice, giving about three times the pull of regular tires. And reinforced tire chains provide from four to seven times the pulling ability of regular tires on snow and ice.

The Tire Industry Safety Council points out that it is unsafe to have radials on the front wheels and any other type construction tire on the rear wheels.

"The handling of a car can be severely affected by such mixing, according to government and industry warnings," a council spokesman said.

So, if a motorist with radials on the front is going to put on snow tires this winter, they should be radial snow tires for safety's sake.



Pryor Massey

2 promoted

L.B. PRYOR of Bloomfield Township has been named assistant sales manager for the eastern half of the United States for Cadillac Motor Car Division of General Motors.

He joined GM in 1947 and became assistant general sales manager of Cadillac's central office activities in 1973.

W.G. MASSEY of Bloomfield Township becomes assistant general sales manager for the central office activities with Cadillac division of GM.

A 22-year veteran of Cadillac, Massey was appointed in 1971 assistant general sales manager in charge of the western half of the United States.

860 Chevrolet
CHEVROLET 1971 Caprice, low mileage, excellent condition, 127-079.
CHEVROLET 1971 Malibu, 9 passenger, 1st power, AM/FM, 127-079.
CHEVROLET 1971 Camaro, 127-079.

862 Chrysler
NEWPORT 1971, Custom, low mileage, 127-079.
NEWPORT 1971, Custom, low mileage, 127-079.
NEWPORT 1971, Custom, low mileage, 127-079.

864 Dodge
CORONET 1971, 1970, 1969, 1968, 1967, 1966, 1965, 1964, 1963, 1962, 1961, 1960, 1959, 1958, 1957, 1956, 1955, 1954, 1953, 1952, 1951, 1950, 1949, 1948, 1947, 1946, 1945, 1944, 1943, 1942, 1941, 1940, 1939, 1938, 1937, 1936, 1935, 1934, 1933, 1932, 1931, 1930, 1929, 1928, 1927, 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922, 1921, 1920, 1919, 1918, 1917, 1916, 1915, 1914, 1913, 1912, 1911, 1910, 1909, 1908, 1907, 1906, 1905, 1904, 1903, 1902, 1901, 1900, 1899, 1898, 1897, 1896, 1895, 1894, 1893, 1892, 1891, 1890, 1889, 1888, 1887, 1886, 1885, 1884, 1883, 1882, 1881, 1880, 1879, 1878, 1877, 1876, 1875, 1874, 1873, 1872, 1871, 1870, 1869, 1868, 1867, 1866, 1865, 1864, 1863, 1862, 1861, 1860, 1859, 1858, 1857, 1856, 1855, 1854, 1853, 1852, 1851, 1850, 1849, 1848, 1847, 1846, 1845, 1844, 1843, 1842, 1841, 1840, 1839, 1838, 1837, 1836, 1835, 1834, 1833, 1832, 1831, 1830, 1829, 1828, 1827, 1826, 1825, 1824, 1823, 1822, 1821, 1820, 1819, 1818, 1817, 1816, 1815, 1814, 1813, 1812, 1811, 1810, 1809, 1808, 1807, 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171, 170, 169, 168, 167, 166, 165, 164, 163, 162, 161, 160, 159, 158, 157, 156, 155, 154, 153, 152, 151, 150, 149, 148, 147, 146, 145, 144, 143, 142, 141, 140, 139, 138, 137, 136, 135, 134, 133, 132, 131, 130, 129, 128, 127, 126, 125, 124, 123, 122, 121, 120, 119, 118, 117, 116, 115, 114, 113, 112, 111, 110, 109, 108, 107, 106, 105, 104, 103, 102, 101, 100, 99, 98, 97, 96, 95, 94, 93, 92, 91, 90, 89, 88, 87, 86, 85, 84, 83, 82, 81, 80, 79, 78, 77, 76, 75, 74, 73, 72, 71, 70, 69, 68, 67, 66, 65, 64, 63, 62, 61, 60, 59, 58, 57, 56, 55, 54, 53, 52, 51, 50, 49, 48, 47, 46, 45, 44, 43, 42, 41, 40, 39, 38, 37, 36, 35, 34, 33, 32, 31, 30, 29, 28, 27, 26, 25, 24, 23, 22, 21, 20, 19, 18, 1