

# AutoShack Weekly Tip



- Tires experience wear from usage and need to be replaced as a result.
- One of the most common forms of tire wear is development of tire cracks.
- Your mechanic may suggest changing tires with cracks although not all cracks warrant a change.
- The location and size of cracks can help determine if a change is needed.
- Tire cracks can be a safety issue so it's useful to understand tire cracks and recommendations for replacing tires with cracks.
- Superficial tire cracks may not be an immediate safety concern, but sometimes cracks in tires that seem minor can get worse in no time. It is highly recommended that you speak to a qualified technician when you find sidewall cracks.
- In today's tip we discuss tire cracks.

## Tire cracks and what you need to know.

- Primarily, tire cracks develop on two areas on a tire:
  - Threads
  - Sidewall
- Surface cracks on the tire **thread** are generally not a concern. Deep cracks are not acceptable as they can cause tire blowouts. Assessment of crack depth should be made by a qualified technician.
- The **sidewall** is thin compared to the threads and can more easily lose its structural integrity due to the development of cracks.
- Cracks of length greater than 0.0625inches (1.6millimeters) on the sidewall are not acceptable regardless of depth. The tire must be replaced.

# Photo showing threads and sidewall

**Threads**

**Sidewall**



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- A majority of the tip topics are suggested by others based on their experiences.
- Consider helping others to benefit from your experiences by suggesting a topic for our tip bank based on your car troubles, experiences or observations.

## CREDITS

✓ Tire photo: [www.freep.com](http://www.freep.com)