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Tyre Technical Advisory Committee
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Euro look – tyre and wheel compatibility

In order to deliver their intended performance tyres must be fitted to a rim of appropriate width. There is a growing fashion to customise cars by stretching the tyres over excessively wide rims. See illustration below. Such fitment causes excessive distortion of the tyre sidewall and could lead to premature tyre failure. There is also a serious risk of the tyre being dislodged from the wheel rim under sudden cornering forces.

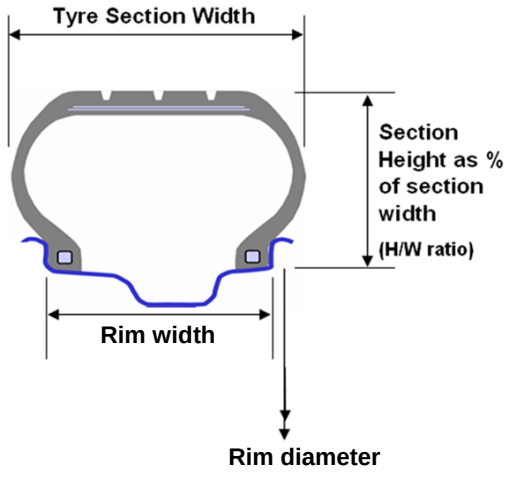
Vehicle manufacturers' original wheel and tyre equipment complies with the recommended fitments set out in BS ISO 4001: 2007. These data are also available in the relevant section of the standards manual published by the European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation (ETRTO), available here.

Aftermarket fitments that do not respect these recommendations may invalidate motor insurance and may contravene the Road Vehicles Construction & Use Regulation 27 (tyre not maintained in such condition as to be fit for the use to which the vehicle is being put), Regulation 63 (bodywork and spray suppression) and the Road Traffic Act section 40 (vehicle in dangerous condition).

Recommended rim widths calculated in accordance with BS ISO 4001: 2007 for the most popular tyre sizes are set out in the table below.

Tyre size	Minimum rim width	Optimum rim width	Maximum rim width
205/55R16	5.5”	6.0”	7.5”
195/65R15	5.5”	6.0”	7.0”
175/65R14	5.0”	5.0”	6.0”
195/50R15	5.5”	6.0”	7.0”

Consumers are urged to consult the relevant tyre manufacturer before changing tyre or wheel sizes to ensure compatibility of the two components for the vehicle application.



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