

Easter tips for trailers and caravans

As most caravans, boats and trailers aren't used much during the year, it's important that several checks are made before using them at holiday. Dustine Gascoyne, Goodyear's marketing director, has issued a list of pre-trip tips to help you avoid roadside frustration and have a safe journey.

"When caravans and trailers stand in one place for an extended period, their tyres will probably develop a 'flat spot' from the prolonged slight pressure. Ideally, one should remove the wheel and tyre and put the caravans and trailers on stands while they're not being used. If it's 'too late now', I would strongly advise owners to have their tyres' condition checked at a reputable service centre such as any Hi-Q, Trentyre, Tirepoint or Mastertreads outlets around the country," said Gascoyne.

Salt water corrosion

"Wheel bearings, particularly those on boat trailers, which are exposed to salt water, should be checked for corrosion. Tyres need to be checked for cracks and penetrations, and the technician will check that there is still sufficient tread depth on the tyres. Don't forget to get the spare tyre checked too!

Make sure your tyres' pressure is correct. This will save on fuel and ensure a safe, comfortable ride. All wheel elements should be tightened and, while you're at it, make sure you have the relevant jack and wheel spanner for your trailer or caravan. They may require different tools to those of your car tyres.

By law, all trailers require the correct chevron tape to be wrapped all the way around the body for better visibility. Make sure your lights are all working properly and that your licences are up to date.

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