

A recent discussion on The Camping and Caravanning Club's Facebook page prompted lots of questions from members about the benefits that Tyron bands have for motorhome owners. To help answer some of the common questions we were asked about Tyron bands we spoke to the company's Technical Director Tony Glazebrook:

As motorhomes have four wheels, rather than two as caravans do, they are more stable so Tyron bands aren't required. Is there any truth in this?

No, and in fact the opposite would be true. If you lose one of the tyres on your motorhome it is going to become unstable and any assistance you can get to keep the vehicle stable and continue to a safe place to change the wheel must be a benefit.

Is it ok to put Tyron bands on just the front wheels of a motorhome?

We would always recommend that if you decide to fit Tyron bands then you have them on all wheels on your motorhome. Contrary to public belief, the rear tyres are more dangerous than the front; when a front tyre deflates you can feel it through the steering wheel and you can see bonnet or windscreen of the vehicle leaning towards the flat tyre. The suspension on motorhomes is so good that it masks a rear tyre deflation, thereby reducing any warning signs until you go round a corner, when the vehicle will start to slide and you could lose control as the wheel digs-in to the road surface.

Some motorhome owners reported that tyre fitters would not change tyres that had Tyron bands on and so they had to opt for tyre sealants instead. What would you recommend members do to get around this issue?

Firstly, it is tyre sealants that are not recommended and all tyres companies have been notified in writing that they are not allowed to attempt any form of puncture repair to a tyre that has had tyre sealant installed.

Tyron bands do add to the workload for a tyre fitter so sometimes there may be some resistance to them, but this isn't something that should be common. There are hundreds of tyre fitters in the UK who have the tools and knowledge to change a tyre fitted with Tyron bands, including most ATS Euromaster and HiQ centres. In addition there are also mobile tyre fitters covering the country including Kwik Fit Mobile, Hometyre and in the coming months E-Tyres - for a full list visit www.tyron.co.uk. We have also introduced a portable fitting machine to be carried with the vehicle so any tyre fitter can easily fit and remove the MultiBand; this is particularly useful when travelling abroad.

If finding someone to replace the tyre is a particular concern, then Tyron do run an emergency puncture and blowout service in the UK called Tyron Assist that you can join. This will mean that if you should have a puncture or tyre blowout then we will come to the side of the road and replace the tyre for you.

If members buy a second hand motorhome how can they tell whether there are Tyron bands fitted to the tyres?

A sticker is placed next to the valve on the tyre when a Tyron band is fitted to motorhome tyres, so if you have one of these on your tyres you can see that they have been fitted to your vehicle. If you were to remove the bands you would also need to remove this sticker so that people didn't think bands were there when they weren't.

We also supply a customer care kit which has a long ball-ended allen key and instructions which should remain in the vehicle at all times, if this is missing then there is a chance that the Tyron Bands have been removed.

Are Tyron bands adjustable or do you have to buy them to the exact size of the tyre?

Tyron bands aren't adjustable and are specific to the size of the motorhome wheel. If you take your vehicle to a Tyron fitting centre they will make sure that the correct bands are fitted for your vehicle.

If you buy a new motorhome can you take the bands off and fit them to the new vehicle, or is it best to start again with new ones?

Tyron bands have been designed never to wear out, so they will last the life of your motorhome and can be removed and taken with you to your new vehicle provided they are the same size and make of wheels. You may find it easier to just buy new ones though, and dealers can sometimes offer a deal to fit new bands for you and leave the old ones on your existing vehicle.

