

# Tire Inflation Pressure Compensation and Adjustment

**Service Category** Suspension

**Section** Tire/Wheel

**Market** USA

Lexus Supports  
ASE Certification 

## Applicability

YEAR(S)	MODEL(S)	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
2007 – 2009	ES350, LS460, LS600H	
2006 – 2009	GS300, GS350, GS430, GS460, IS250, IS350, LX470, LX570, RX350, RX400H	
2008 – 2009	GS450H, IS F	
2004 – 2009	GX470	
2002 – 2009	SC430	

## Introduction

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide a procedure to adjust tire pressure correctly when outside temperature is significantly colder or warmer than shop temperature.

Seasonal temperature change can dramatically alter tire pressure, which can cause the tire pressure warning lamp to illuminate.

### NOTE

**This bulletin applies to some 2002 – 2007 model year Lexus vehicles with direct TPWS and all 2008 and newer model year Lexus vehicles.**

## Warranty Information

OP CODE	DESCRIPTION	TIME	OFF	T1	T2
N/A	Not Applicable to Warranty	–	–	–	–

# Tire Inflation Pressure Compensation and Adjustment

## Tire Pressure vs. Tire Temperature

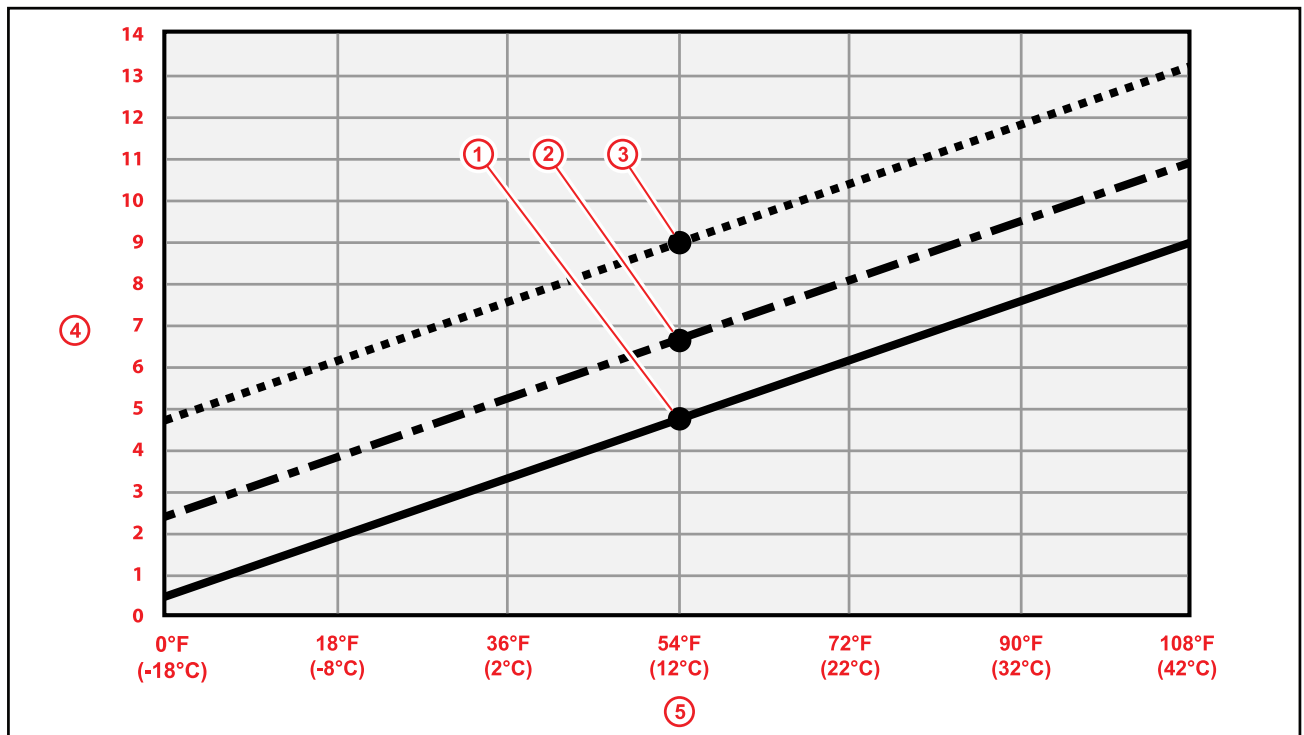
Tire temperature is dependent on “cold” tire pressure, driving distance and speed, ambient temperature and road surface temperature. As the temperature of the tire changes, air in the tire expands and contracts, changing the tire’s air pressure. The cold tire pressure for all Lexus models will vary and will need to be adjusted accordingly.

“Cold” tire pressure, as shown on the tire pressure label on our vehicles, is generally considered to be the pressure in a tire that has not been driven in the past 4 hours and has been parked outdoors.

The TPWS **MUST** be initialized with the tire pressure marked on the vehicle placard. Tires are then adjusted according to the information in this bulletin to ensure that the TPWS light does not illuminate unnecessarily.

## Tire Pressure Adjustment

Figure 1. Tire Pressure Chart



1	—— Example 1: Cold Tires — Car Not Driven for 4 Hours and Parked Outside
2	- - - - Example 2: Warm Tires — Car Has Just Been Driven a Short Distance in Traffic
3	..... Example 3: Hot Tires — Car Has Just Been Driven for at Least 1 Hour of Highway Driving
4	Tire Pressure Change (psi)
5	Temperature DIFFERENCE Between Seasonable Lowest Temperature and Workshop Temperature

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### Tire Pressure Adjustment (Continued)

#### Recommended Tire Pressure Adjustment:

**NOTE**

Use a high quality accurate tire pressure gauge, and check its accuracy regularly.

- Consider the difference of the air temperature in the workshop and the lowest ambient temperature that may be expected in the next few weeks (especially in winter).
- Use the chart (Figure 1) to compensate for temperature of the tires when adjusting tire pressure.
- Use temperature compensation Example 1 for the spare tire.

#### Example 1: Temperature Compensation – “Cold” Tires

- The vehicle has been parked overnight outside shop (vehicle has “cold” tires) and tire pressures are set to 31.9 psi.
- Workshop temperature is 68°F (20°C), and expected lowest ambient temperature in the local area is to be 14°F (–10°C).
- Subtract the expected lowest temperature (14°F [–10°C]) from the highest expected temperature (68°F [20°C]) = 54°F (12°C).
- Using the tire pressure chart (Figure 1), find the intersection of the cold tire line at the point corresponding to 54°F (12°C), and read off the value on the tire pressure change axis. In this case it would be about 4.9 psi.
- The tires should be filled to:  
**31.9 + 4.9 psi = 36.8 psi**

#### Example 2: Temperature Compensation – “Warm” Tires

- The vehicle has been driven to the shop on surface streets for about 30 minutes (vehicle has “warm” tires) and tire pressures are set to 31.9 psi.
- Workshop temperature is 68°F (20°C) and expected lowest ambient temperature in your area is to be 14°F (–10°C).
- Subtract the expected lowest temperature (14°F [–10°C]) from the highest expected temperature (68°F [20°C]) = 54°F (12°C).
- Using the Tire Pressure Chart (Figure 1), find the intersection of the warm tire line at the point corresponding to 54°F (12°C) and read off the value on the tire pressure change axis. In this case it would be about 6.7 psi.
- The tires should be filled to:  
**31.9 + 6.7 psi = 38.6 psi**

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### Example 3: Temperature Compensation – “Hot” Tires

- The vehicle has been driven to the shop on the highway for at least 60 minutes (vehicle has “hot” tires) and tire pressures are set to 31.9 psi.
- Workshop temperature is 68°F (20°C), and the expected lowest ambient temperature in the area is expected to be 14°F (–10°C).
- Subtract the expected lowest temperature (14°F [–10°C]) from the highest expected temperature (68°F [20°C]) = 54°F (12°C).
- Using the tire pressure chart (Figure 1), find the intersection of the hot tire line at the point corresponding to 54°F (12°C), and read off the value on the tire pressure change axis. In this case it would be about 9.0 psi.
- The tires should be filled to:  
**31.9 + 9.0 psi = 40.9 psi**