



CANADA
4-H Saskatchewan

Exploring 4-H at Home



Science and
Technology

Pillar: Science & Technology

Project: Car Care

Activity: Changing a Tire



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Car Care

Activity Guide

Changing a Tire

1. Put your car in park and put on the parking brake. Make sure you are on flat ground, as you may roll on an incline. You can also put blocks by the other wheels, to help make sure your car doesn't roll.
2. Loosen your lug nuts. Do not remove them!
3. Place the jack correctly near the tire you are changing. Placing a jack incorrectly could damage the vehicle or cause personal injury. Then, using the jack, raise the vehicle.
4. Remove the lug nuts and place them in a safe, clean area.
5. Lift and pull the wheel off the hub.
6. Clean the hub and the tire rim. Optional: put anti-seize grease/lube on the tire rim.
7. Put the lug nuts back on until hand tight. Do not tighten them all the way.
8. Lower your vehicle and remove the jack.
9. Tighten the lug nuts with the torque wrench. Make sure to use a star pattern to balance the stress on the wheel.

Other tips:

- If you put on a spare tire, remember these are not meant for speed or long distances. Go to a tire shop as soon as possible to replace the flat tire you removed.
- If changing a tire on the side of the road, move over as close to the shoulder as possible, make sure to turn your hazard lights on and, if possible, put pylons around your vehicle.
- The wrench that comes with your jack will work if changing a flat tire. You do not need a torque wrench in an emergency situation.
- If you have an impact drill, this could be useful for tightening and loosening your lug nuts. It is not necessary.
- If you have put on a new tire yourself (not a spare), remember to keep an eye on the tire and check to make sure the lug nuts are tight after driving it a couple times.
- Before driving on a new tire, make sure to check your tire pressure and make sure the tire is on properly, for your own safety.



