Changing a Tire Event Check List

The liability for this type of event can be considerable when you think about how changing a tire is different for every vehicle, especially on where to put the jack so as not to bend or damage anything under the vehicle that is not part of the “frame”. The owner’s manual should be used to determine where to put the jack and how to change the tire on the owner’s particular vehicle.

- Risk Considerations:
  - Rope off the area so that only the mechanic is close to or working on the vehicle; while participant watchers are not.
  - Require Waiver of Liability forms by participants
  - Require a Waiver of Liability be signed by those that own the vehicle including that they are responsible for any damages that may occur to the vehicle during the demonstration.
  - Require a Certificate of Insurance for general liability from the mechanic or person teaching others how to change tire.
  - Add a Disclaimer that the mechanic demonstration on how to change a tire is for broad knowledge only and that each person will need to check their owner’s manual on how to implement the steps to change a tire on their particular vehicle.
  - Consider sharing a video on How to Change a Tire, such as, the information below and hold a discussion after with a mechanic. For example, the one on Ehow below:

  Video: How to Change a Flat Tire | eHow.com http://www.ehow.com/video_1863_change-flat-tire.html#ixzz2Ptt1Im00
How to Change a Flat Tire
Replacing a flat tire requires only a few essentials. Know this easy (and all too common) automotive task, and you'll be rolling again in no time. After reading this eHow you'll be able to save yourself the hassle of waiting for AAA to come bail you out, you can just change the tire yourself.

Difficulty:
Moderately Easy

Instructions

Things You'll Need
- Pumps and Gauges
- Car Jacks
- Penetrating Oil
- Tire Gauges
- Lugnut Wrenches
- Spare Tires

1. Put the car in park on level ground and apply the parking brake. Place manual transmission cars in gear. Make sure you have pulled off the road. Turn the engine off and turn on the hazard lights. You may want to open the hood to indicate to other drivers that you are stopped for repairs.

2. Place a wheel chock or a large rock behind (if facing uphill) or in front (if facing downhill) the diagonally opposing wheel to prevent the car from rolling. Do this even on a slight incline. Get out the spare, a lug nut wrench (tire iron) and the car jack.

3. Remove the hubcap, if necessary.

4. Loosen the lug nuts, which hold the wheel in place, before jacking up the car: Place one end of the lug nut wrench over a lug nut. Use a hollow pipe (about 2 feet in length) for leverage by slipping it over the end of the lug nut wrench. Turn the wrench counterclockwise to loosen the lug nut. Loosen the lug nuts in a star pattern, first loosen one a few turns, then loosen the one opposite. Work across the tire until all the lug nuts are loose and unscrewed slightly.
Carefully jack up the car (see 'Jack Up a Car Safely'). Check your owner's manual for the correct and safe place to put the jack. Jack the car up a little higher than is necessary to remove the old tire so there is room to put the new, full tire on.

6. Remove the lug nuts all the way and set them aside in a place where you won’t lose them and they won’t roll away. The flat tire should be hanging from the threaded studs now.

7. Remove the flat tire and set it aside.

8. Lift the new tire onto the wheel studs. If you’re confused about which is the right way to put the new tire on, check for the valve where you add air, it always faces out.

9. Replace the lug nuts. Tighten them the same way you loosened them: Give each nut a few turns, first one, then the one opposite, working around the wheel in a star pattern. Try not to tighten adjacent nuts consecutively.

10. Slowly lower the jack and remove it.

11. Tighten the lug nuts again as much as you can.

12. Put the hubcap back on.