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Happy New Year from the Roach Law Office! We hope your 2020 is off to a great start.

Most of you know all too well how frustrating car issues can be; that's why we try to share ways to make dealing with these situations easier. This month read about what to do if you get a flat tire and tips on what to do if your car gets recalled.

Also check out a delicious cold weather recipe and a feel good story to brighten your day.

Stay safe on the roads this winter!

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How to Change a Flat Tire on Your Car



If your tire gets punctured while you are far away from home, knowing how to put on a spare can save a lot of time and heartache. Luckily, the process is fairly simple. All you need to do is follow these easy steps:

Before you can begin working on your vehicle, you will need to find a safe place to do so. A sparsely used parking lot is the ideal option. Of course, depending on where you break down, such a place may not be easy to find. If this is the case for you, a wide shoulder with a flat surface will also work in a pinch. Just make sure that you turn on your hazard lights and make yourself as visible as possible to other road users.

Gather Your Tools

To successfully change a tire, you will need a lug wrench, a jack, and, of course, a spare tire. Flashlights, flares, gloves, wheel wedges, and ponchos can also be quite helpful but are not totally necessary. Before you start work on your tire, you should gather everything you will need from the trunk of your vehicle and place it next to your work site.

Loosen the Lug Nuts

The act of changing a tire begins by loosening the lug nuts. Simply lower yourself into a kneeling position and slowly loosen them with your wrench. If you have a wheel cover, you will need to remove it before you can begin work on the lug nuts.

Jack Up the Car and Remove the Wheel

Once your lug nuts have been loosened, you will next need to jack up your car so that you can remove the wheel. If you are unsure about the correct place to put your jack, you can consult your owner's manual. You should be able to find detailed instructions there.

When the jack is in the correct location, pump it up until it is at a level that allows you to remove the wheel. If your vehicle is old or well-used, you may need to jerk at the wheel a little before you can successfully take it off.

Mount the Spare Tire

With the original wheel removed, you will now be able to mount your spare. Once you have it on the lug bolts, you can tighten the lug nuts by hand to keep it

Lower the Car

The final step on your journey to changing your tire is lowering the vehicle. When you get it back down to the ground, you can then tighten the lug nuts one last time with the wrench to ensure that they are secure.

The prospect of changing your own tire can be frightening and overwhelming at first. However, as long as you follow the instructions outlined above, you will be able to get your spare tire on and get back on the road in no time.

What To Do If Your Car Is Recalled



Millions of cars are recalled every year. A recall is usually due to a safety defect such as brakes failing or airbags not deploying. Manufacturers will contact you shortly after the recall has been issued. When you bring your car to a dealership to get oil changes and other maintenance done, they will let you know if there has been a recall placed on your vehicle. If you find out that your car is recalled, do not panic. As a general rule, you will want to take the following steps if your car has been recalled:

Recall letters come from the manufacturer of your vehicle. In the letter, it lists what the issue is as well as signs of the problem. For example, if a car's seat belts are recalled, a sign may be the buckles failing to fasten. The letter will also tell you if the car is too dangerous to drive. If you are still not sure, contact the manufacturer or a local dealer.

Schedule a Service Appointment

The recall letter will also instruct you to contact a local dealer to get your car repaired. It is essential to get the repairs done as soon as possible to reduce danger while out on the road. Depending on the size of the recall, repairs may take a while. If needed, do not use your car until it is time to get it repaired. It is essential to remain patient and put safety first.

Who will pay for the repairs?

Repairs for recalls are done for free most of the time. You may receive reimbursement if you are able to do the repairs yourself. If your car is over ten years old, the manufacturer is often not required to pay for repairs. However, if you try contacting your manufacturer, they may be able to help you out.

In Conclusion

Car recalls are nothing to panic about. It is essential to read your recall letter and bring your car to the dealer so the problem can be fixed in a timely manner. In no time, your car will be safe and reliable enough to bring out on the road again.

Savory Chicken and Dumplings Recipe

Ingredients:

4 pounds whole chicken cut up

1 whole dried red chili pepper, seeded and diced

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2 stalks celery, chopped

2 onions, chopped

1 bay leaves

3 cloves garlic, minced

4 (14.5 ounce) cans chicken broth

1 cup heavy cream

1/4 cup cornstarch

1/2 cup water

2 cups self-rising flour

1 cup heavy cream

Directions

Step 1

For the stock: In a large pot over high heat, place the chicken parts, chile pepper, carrots, celery, onions, bay leaf, garlic and chicken broth. Mix well and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low, cover and simmer for 1 to 2 hours, or until chicken comes off bone easily. Cover and refrigerate overnight.

Step 2

The next day, skim the fat off the top of the soup and remove the chicken parts. De-bone the chicken and chop the meat into bite size pieces. Discard bones and set meat aside. Using a slotted spoon, remove and discard the vegetables. Return the pot to the stove over high heat and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low for 10 to 15 minutes, add the heavy cream and stir well.

Step 3

In a separate small bowl, dissolve the cornstarch in the water and add to the pot. Stir until thickened, and make the dumplings while the stock reduces.

Step 4

For the dumplings: In a large bowl, combine the flour and the heavy cream, mixing well. Roll into balls about 1 1/2 inches in diameter. Drop balls carefully into the simmering soup and cook for 7 minutes. Then cover soup and cook for 7 more minutes. Add the chicken, stir well and allow to heat through

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Feel Good News!

This 2020 we made a resolution to be kinder!

For inspiration, we decided to share an article by The Good News Network about the kind things people do on a regular basis.

This story will restore your faith in humanity--read it [here!](#)

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