



Repairing Tire Hole/Puncture

Repair a hole or puncture in your tire by using a tire plug.

Written By: Jaylynn Hoffman



INTRODUCTION

Flat/leaky tires are a part of life. Tires are made of rubber and therefore can be punctured. While there is little anyone can do to prevent this, a simple fix is available. When a nail or any other sharp object punctures a hole in a car tire it causes the tire to leak air consistently, which can be very dangerous if not fixed. Using a few simple tools, a punctured tire can be fixed using a tire plug. Remember to be sure to perform the repair on level ground. The car engine should be off and the parking brake engaged.



TOOLS:

- [Air compressor](#) (1)
- [Tire Plug Kit](#) (1)
- [Slip Joint Pliers](#) (1)
- [Spray Bottle](#) (1)
- [Soapy Water](#) (1)
- [Old Rag](#) (1)
- [Air Pressure Gauge](#) (1)

Step 1 — Repairing Tire Hole/Puncture



- Wipe the surface of the tire with a rag to remove any loose dirt, rocks, or debris.

Step 2



- Using the air compressor, air the tire up to the original recommended weight for the vehicle.
- ⓘ Air is expected to continue to leak out so do not worry if you cannot get it perfect.

Step 3



- Use the air pressure gauge to make sure the tire is now aired up to its original pressure.

Step 4



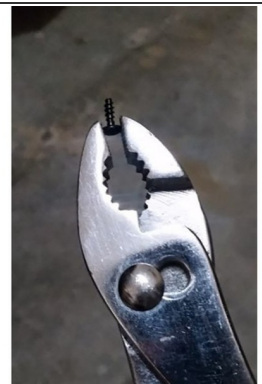
- Spray the surface of the tire completely with the soapy water.

Step 5



- Look for tiny air bubbles forming from the leaking air and soap combination, this is where the hole is located.

Step 6



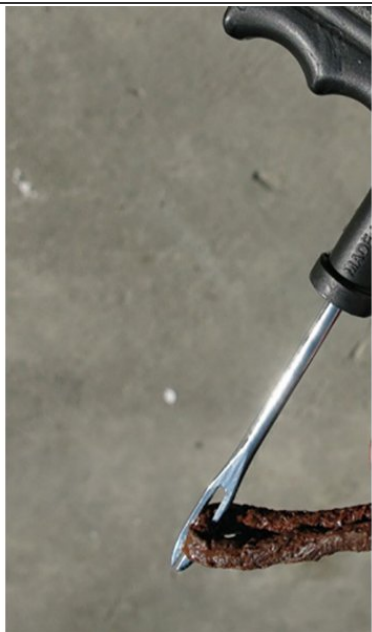
- Once the hole is located, remove any foreign objects with the pliers if present.
- i** Any object that is stuck in the tire, or puncturing the tire is considered a foreign object. These may include sharp objects, commonly seen as nails, screws, or pieces of metal.

Step 7



- Insert the reamer into the puncture.
- Work the reamer in and out while twisting to clean and prep the puncture.

Step 8



- Put the plug into the insertion tool.

Step 9



- Insert the plug into the punctured area, leaving about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch of the plug above the surface of the tire.
- Yank the insertion tool so the plug remains in the tire, but the tool releases.
- Cut the remaining plug so it is flush with the tire.

Step 10



- Refill the tire to the proper pressure.

Step 11



- Use the air pressure gauge to make sure that the tire is back to its original air pressure.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.