CONSUMER REPORTS says that tires can “lose their footing long before they are worn out.” If your tires need replacing, you can ensure that you are purchasing union-made-in-the-USA tire by following looking for the DOT BE code.

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has made it very easy to find union-made tires by requiring that each tire carry a code that shows the company and the location of the plant that manufactured the tire. DOT requires that each tire sold in the United States carry a code that looks something like this: DOT BE XX XXX XXX. The two letters or numbers that follow the DOT identify a particular factory as listed below.

2016 UNION MADE TIRES

HOW SAFE ARE YOUR TIRES THIS WINTER?

- VE, YE, YU, 8B: Bridgestone/Firestone, Des Moines, Iowa
- D2, E3, W1, Y7: Bridgestone/Firestone, La Vergne, Tenn.
- 2C, 4D, 5D: Bridgestone/Firestone, Morrison, Tenn.
- UP: Cooper, Findlay, Ohio
- UT: Cooper, Texarkana, Ark.
- JU, PC, UK: Goodyear, Medicine Hat, Alberta
- JJ, MD, PU: Goodyear, Gadsden, Ala.
- DA: Dunlop, Buffalo, N.Y.
- JF, MM, PJ: Kelly-Springfield, Fayetteville, N.C.
- CF: Titan Tire, Des Moines
- B plus serial #: Titan Tire, Bryan, Ohio
- CC: Yokohama Tire, Salem, Va.

All tires made at the above locations are made by members of the United Steelworkers (USW). Make sure you use this easy-to-follow guide to buy union-made tires.