

# Corvette Winter Storage Tips

## Tire Storage

A subject that will become very relevant soon is winter storage, and an important part of storing the car properly is the care for the tires!

**Michelin** which many consider to be the leader in tire technology states: if your tires have been subjected to long storage times while loaded and over-inflated and with fairly high or low temperatures, the tires could develop a “semi-permanent” flat spotting. This flat spotting will eventually go away, but it may take a good bit of driving.



**Tires should not be stored loaded (when the car is parked) or over-inflated while subjected to extreme heat and cold.**

Tire Storage tips

**Do not overinflate** the tires, keep them at the manufacturers recommended pressures! If you are storing the car for an extended period of time, it is best that the car be moved occasionally, by even just a few inches to change the position of the tires which come in contact with the surface below.

If possible, put some sort of barrier between the tires and the concrete surface, such as foam insulation pads to soften the firmness between the tire and the surface below.

If you are removing your tires and storing them separately, (Not recommended) lay the tires down on a flat padded surface. If the car is being kept on jack stands, the **suspension should be kept in a neutral position**, (the same height as if the tires were on the car) and not left unloaded or compressed.

Additionally, there are products available as shown in the picture that you can buy and drive onto that will keep your tires in their natural contoured shape.

## Fuel Storage

This one is open to debate among many as to which is the best method to store your Corvette during the winter hibernation months.

Some say to fill the tank to the brim and add a fuel storage stabilizer and you are all set come springtime. Others say to do a 1/4 tank with stabilizer. Yet others say 1/2 full of stabilizer. However, there are a few things that most everyone agrees on!

1. Always add some sort of fuel stabilizer regardless of how much gas you decide to keep in the tank.
2. Add premium high-octane fuel when you store the car for an extended period of time,

(Most everyone already runs premium high-octane fuel year-round)

3. Today's fuel tanks and systems are a sealed and closed system and are not prone to any condensation build up in the fuel tanks. (Most modern cars have a closed system)

Here's the one that the majority of the experts think makes the most sense. Fill your tank between 1/4 and 1/2 full of a good stabilizer. Then in the spring fill your tank with fresh high-octane fuel and it will mix with the stored fuel giving you a healthy mix of fuel going through your system.



## Battery

Invest in a good high quality battery tender, which will consistently give your battery a low voltage charge during the winter storage months. This will ensure that your battery is in tip top shape come springtime and you go to fire it up! A good quality UL approved charger will run you about \$50 and is a worthwhile investment



## Repelling Rodents

One of the biggest areas for many to address is keeping rodents such as mice and other critters away from your car. There are some things that you can do that have been proven effective in repelling mice and other creatures. Place high quality dryer lint sheets such as Bounce in the engine and passenger compartments as a proven highly effective repellent (remember to remove them before starting the car) Covering your exhaust tips with cloth and rubber bands will keep them out of the exhaust tips. Also, there are specific repellent products such as a product called Fresh Cab (Available at Tractor Supply that are known to work extremely well.) These items will be much more effective than mice



traps that will only deal with the issue one rodent at a time, but instead will keep them all away!

Finally, if you are like some of us, who aren't able to keep the car in storage or in a garage, then the investment in a high-quality outdoor cover is a must. Start the car every other week and let it run up to temperature for 20 minutes or so! Move the car occasionally to keep the tires from flat spotting and take the same rodent precautions as storing it inside! And just think, if you happen to catch a perfect January day with no snow or salt, then you can take her out for a short spin while everyone else is left staring at theirs in the garage!