

PORSCHE "N" DESIGNATIONS

Tires fitted by Porsche as Original Equipment are developed to suit the individual characteristics of specific models.

Just as new car models have different characteristics from the previous models (e.g. 996 compared to 993), new tires with different characteristics are developed to work in harmony with the new models. These tires are differentiated by the use of "N" markings.

What is an "N" Marking?

All Porsche approved tires fitted to vehicles manufactured after 1998 have "N" marked tires. Vehicles manufactured before 1988 had no Porsche approval marking. To equip older models, some tires were approved by Porsche and bear the "N" marking. The "N" marking is homologated for a particular year/model of Porsche vehicles. The same "N" marked tire may be homologated for several Porsche models and years.

Different tire manufacturers may have different "N" numbers for the same vehicle, for example:

Homologated 16" tires for the Boxster (8/98) are: 205/55ZR-16 (F) & 225/50ZR-16 (R)

Pirelli N3	Continental N1	Michelin N2	Yokohama N1	Bridgestone N
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"NO"—Initial Porsche AG tested tires that are authorized to be used as replacements to ensure Porsche performance.

"N1"—The 911 marks the standardization of the 17" fitments, requiring:

- Better dry performance and consistency
- Improved braking stability
- Lower rolling resistance
- Reduced weight (approximately 20%)
- Improved performance in wet conditions

"N2"—New Pirelli System sets the standard for Wet Performance.

"N3"—The biggest improvements of this new version are in noise and comfort; the new 911 (996) has drastically reduced noise emission levels due to a water-cooled engine along with care taken to reduce noise in transmission, suspension and aerodynamics. This means that older tires (previous "N" versions) of all brands, approved up to the year 1997, are too noisy and rigid for the 2000 Porsche.

Porsche "N" Marked Tires - Mixing

- A car should be fitted with a set of the same tires in order to maximize the performance and handling characteristics of the car.
- Mixing of different brands and/or patterns is not recommended.
- Mixing of different "N" numbers is not recommended even if it is from the same manufacturer.