

And The Indian Car Of The Year Is...



The Indian specification Suzuki Swift model which is produced and sold for its domestic market has recently won Indian Car Of The Year (ICOTY) 2019 - which is the most prestigious auto award in India. The Swift was first introduced in India in 2005 and is the only model to win Indian Car Of The Year in each generation.

The first Swift won ICOTY in 2006 and the second won it in 2012. Introduced last year, the third generation Swift is much favoured in India as a premium hatchback with sporty styling, superb driving performance and good user friendliness. It is produced for the Indian market by Suzuki's manufacturing

subsidiary, Suzuki Motor Gujarat Private limited and sold by Maruti Suzuki India Limited. Since Suzuki launched the Swift in India, more than two million units have been sold and at launch in June last year, it was the fastest to reach sales of 100,000 units, achieved in just 145 days with domestic production subsequently increased

to meet demand. Maruti Suzuki has a current domestic market share in India of around 50 per cent and reached 54 per cent in November 2018. A total of 119,000 units were sold in December and between April and September 2018, more than 919,000 Suzuki cars were manufactured and sold there.

Check Vehicle Safety Before Embarking On Any Road Trip

Whether you're taking your vehicle for a ride down the road, a few hours away to the cottage or across the country for a road trip, it's essential to make sure it is ready to keep you and your family safe.

Changing oil, checking the brake pads and rotating tires are all key maintenance tasks, but one that is often overlooked is inspecting tires for wear and tear. Don't neglect this important job, as tires keep your car on the asphalt and in control through steering, braking and accelerating, not to mention treacherous weather conditions. Here are some tips from the experts at Nokian Tyres:

Proper tread. When tires wear out, the grip deteriorates. Tires with a driving safety indicator, like Nokian Tyres' latest product lines, are easy to recognize if they need to be replaced. Located on the centre surface of the tire, the indicators show the remaining depth of the tire's main groove in millimetres. As the tire wears down, the numbers fade away. At

four millimetres, it's time for replacement. For tires without this feature, try the coin test — insert a nickel into the tread grooves with Queen Elizabeth's head facing down. If you can see the top of the crown, your tires should be replaced. **Tire pressure.** Like proper tread depth, tire pressure is also vital to the functionality of your tires. Without enough pressure, it can be difficult to control the car under extreme conditions, which can cause the steering to pull to

one side. Insufficient tire pressure can even increase rolling resistance on the road, which means reduced fuel efficiency, increased carbon dioxide emissions, and even the risk of a blow-out. Tire pressure can be affected by temperature changes, so monitor when your tires are cold, not right after driving. Use an inexpensive tire gauge for this task every two weeks and before long road trips. **Care on the roads.** Treat your tires the way you treat the rest of your car — with as much care as

possible. Always drive at moderate speeds; avoid excessive wheel spinning; and avoid driving over potholes, obstacles and curbs. If you note any tire damage, swap your affected tire with a spare and visit your local tire detailer for repair as soon as possible to contain the damage. It's important to note that any tire with less than 1.6 millimetres of tread remaining, and/or with punctures larger than 6.4 millimeters in diameter must be replaced, not repaired.

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