

Wheels: An e-mail from Joseph says, “My daughter had new Michelin tires put on her 1995 Pontiac. She experiences vibrations at 55 mph. She took the car to the Pontiac dealer to have it checked out. Everything was okay. She took it back to the tire dealer and they put on another set of tires and still the same problem. She had no problems with the old tires. Any solutions?”

Halderman: The most likely cause of the vibration is the improper tightening of the lug nuts or rust buildup between the wheel and the hub on one or more wheels. If a wheel lug nut was tightened before the others were installed, this can cause the wheel to be twisted slightly when the other lug nuts are tightened. I would suggest that the wheels be removed and the backside cleaned. I would also suggest that a torque wrench be used to be assured that the lug nuts are evenly tightened. Most wheels are torqued to 80-100 lb-ft.

