

**Wheels:** Marlon of Washington Twp. Wrote, “I have a 1997 Astro van that came from the factory with P235 65R15 tires (Goodyear Eagles). It is time to replace them, but I find that Goodyear is the only manufacturer that makes that size and Goodyear wants \$700.90 to replace all four. If I get a similar size, but not exact, the price drops to \$75 to \$85 per tire. I’ve done some homework and found that the nearest sizes in circumference are:

P225 70R 15 which is 1.38% more

P235 70R 15 which is 3.4% more and the

P235 60R 15 which is 3.4% less.

One tire store recommends the P225 70R 15 and say that any circumference difference greater than 3% adversely affects the ABS system. Another tire store recommends the P235 70R 15 and says that circumference affects the odometer only. The local Chevrolet dealer recommended the P235 60R 15 and wanted to reprogram the computer to make the odometer/speedometer read correctly.

Instinct tells me that the better size for me is the P225 70R 15. With so much conflicting information, I need knowledge and guidance from someone who does not have a dog in the fight.”

**Halderman:** The size calculator I use when looking at changes in tire size is at [www.miata.net/garage/triecalc.html](http://www.miata.net/garage/triecalc.html). The width of the wheel rim is another factor to consider. Also visit [www.tirerack.com](http://www.tirerack.com). Call them (888-541-1777) and they can walk you through your options. The closer you can get to the original size, the better.

