

**Wheels:** An e-mail from Robert says, “I have a 1999 Grand Marquis and I just had my brakes checked and the mechanic told me the front pads had 60% left on them and the rear pads had 30% left on them. I have 40,000 miles on the car. I asked him what caused this and he could not give me an answer other than my driving habits. I am the only one who drives this car and I have never owned a car where the rear pads wore out first. He said everything looked normal. The car is still under warranty so I would appreciate your help on this subject.”

**Halderman:** You must be a good driver. As you mentioned most of the braking occurs on the front brakes – typically 60% for rear-wheel drive vehicles such as yours and 80% for front-wheel drive vehicles. The engineers design the system to give a balance and both front and rear often wear about the same. If you brake very gently, there will be less weight transfer to the front and therefore, more weight on the rear of the vehicle during braking. I don’t think there is a fault with the vehicle.

