Wheels: It looks like you need to look for two things when purchasing engine oil:

- 1. The correct viscosity (SAE rating)
- 2. The specified API rating (SM for gasoline engines and CF-4 for diesel engines) Is this all?

Halderman: No. The International Lubricant Standardization and Approval Committee (ILSAC) standard was established to help make it easier for the customer to identify oil suitable for use in most gasoline-fueled vehicles. The current rating is GF-4 (gasoline-fueled) and includes a starburst on the front of the oil container. This starburst makes it easy to identify engine oil that is suitable for use in gasoline-powered vehicles. Therefore, for most, but not all vehicles, look for three things:

- 1. The specified viscosity
- 2. The specific API rating
- 3. The ILSAC starburst on the front of the container

Next week there are more specifications that must be checked. In the meantime, check the owner's manual for the specified oil to use in your vehicle.

