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Tire change season is here! See how it is done on our Boeing 777-200LR



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Spring has sprung across Canada and as we shake off the winter blues, many Canadians are also getting ready to take the winter tires off their cars.

But even the biggest tires on vehicles pale in comparison to the ones our teams at Air Canada Maintenance deal with every day.

For example, a Boeing 777-200LR is equipped with 14 tires (six on each main landing gear, and two on the nose landing gear). And they are massive. Each of the 12 tires on the main gear are more than 50 inches wide and weigh in at 265 pounds.

Apprentice Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (AME) Keith Lau recently recorded a team of AME's changing the tires on a 777 and as you can see, it takes a lot of coordination, patience and some powerful tools.

Here's a few interesting facts about changing tires on a Boeing 777-200LR:

How long does it take to change a tire on a Boeing 777-200LR?

It takes 2 Aircraft Maintenance Engineers roughly an hour to do a tire change from start to finish, including paperwork.

Under normal conditions, how long does a tire last before it needs to be replaced?

While the life of a tire depends on factors like runway conditions, or whether or not the tires run over debris, the typical number of landings a commercial jet tire can endure before replacement is roughly 250.

What's a normal tire pressure for an aircraft?

The optimal tire pressure for all the wheels on the aircraft is 218 PSI (pounds per square inch). To put into perspective, the tires on our cars are usually inflated in the range of 30 PSI.

How big are the tires on the Boeing 777-200LR?

The main wheel: 52 inches x 21 inches; The nose wheel: 43 inches x 17.5 inches.

How heavy is each wheel?

Each nose wheel weighs approximately 155 pounds, while the main gear wheels weigh 265 pounds.



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A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 