

Have you ever wondered  
why Tyres are always Black

Or

If it is possible to have coloured ones?

1

In the beginning...

Tyres were made of natural Rubber

But

Rubber's normal colour is milky white

Rubber is unstable

Ultra Violet light degrades it

Ozone attacks it.

Heat perishes it

2

## Other problems

Flexing the Rubber as tyres roll generates heat by internal friction

This must be transferred to the outside

3

## What to do?

Early experimenters used soot from Oil lamps

Known as Lampblack

A form of Carbon it lowers friction

Good conductor of heat

Prevents UV Light interfering with the rubber

4

## Today

Tyres are not wholly made from natural rubber  
Many polymers are added to improve elasticity, grip and life  
Antioxidants and antiozonates to prevent deterioration  
But  
Like us they age, get stiffer, go brittle and lose suppleness  
Tyre life can be compared to Dog's years.

5



6

## Coloured Tyres



7



8

## What can you do to prolong tyre life

Avoid prolonged exposure to

Sunlight

Petrol and Oil

Ozone

Heat

Wear them out by driving before they get too old