

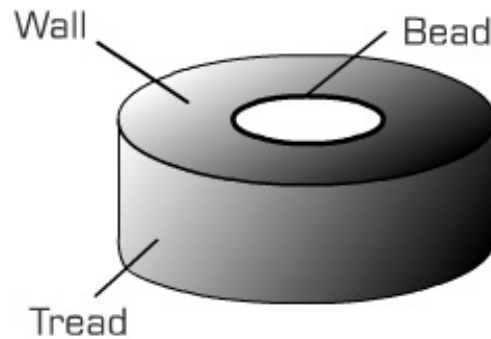
How to mount a Quarter Midget Tire

The Basics

You first of all should know the ins and outs of your tires, and your rims. This will make the whole process go a little smoother.

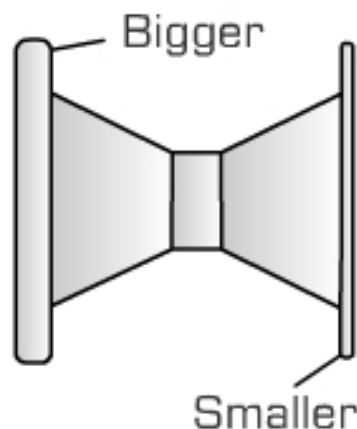
The Tire

A slick racing tire is made of rubber obviously. The rubber is generally stiff and hard to handle when it's at room temperature or less. The tire has three parts that are important to you when changing tires. The tire wall, the tire tread and the tire bead.



The Rim

The rim is what the tire sits on, and it might just be your enemy when going to mount tires. You might be thinking... Why is this stupid rim too small for the tire! This is impossible! Sensibly though, the tire must be a little smaller than the rim to ensure a snug fit, other wise your tire would fall right off. All you need to know about a rim is that there is a wide end and a less wide end. This is the end that you will plan your attack against when mounting your tires.



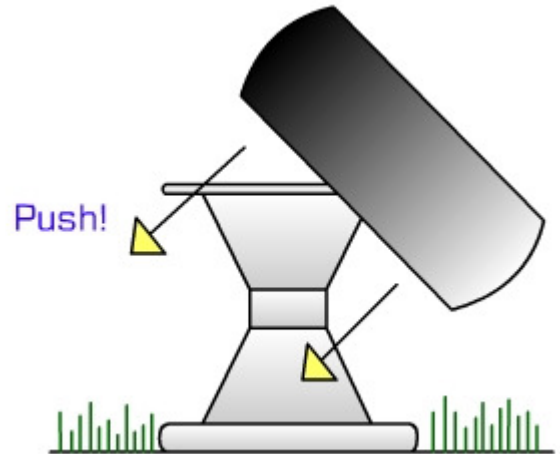
How to Mount a Tire

If you are mounting your tire at home or in the garage, you can do it on a table low enough so that you will be able to get some leverage. If you can find a non-slip surface to do it on such as an old piece of carpet or some taped down cardboard that's even better. Half the battle of mounting tires is trying to keep the rim in one place. It's also a good idea to have a friend help you by holding the rim if you don't have a non-slip surface to do it on.

Try heating up the tires if possible. If you are at home this is easier because you have access to an oven, a hair dryer maybe. If you are at the track, this is a little harder, but on a nice sunny day we all know that those black rubber tires can heat up pretty quick! Just leave them lying in the sun to try and soften up that rubber.

You are going to need some lube. Any type of glass cleaner will work as well as the lube called Tire Snot. Below is a step by step guide on how to mount a tire.

1. Lube Up! Both the rim and the tire bead.
2. Grab the tire like a steering wheel with a really firm grip
3. Place the tire onto the rim at the angle shown below
4. Push the bead over the rim and repeat for the second bead.



How to Set the Bead

To accomplish this task you will need a tire mounting ring or tire band as they are sometimes called. There are two basic types, one is a Ratchet style tire band and the other is a Screw type tire band. You will also need an air compressor, of course. Use a compressor with at least a 20 gallon tank on it. Before starting to inflate tire release some air until compressor kicks on, that way tank is completely full. Place the tire and wheel in the tire mounting ring. Then, either turn the knob or use a ratchet to secure tire band around tire.

Never use band with open end facing up and your face right over it. If the tire blows, your face is toast. Lay the tire band on the floor on its side with open ends facing left and right instead of up and down. With everything out in front of the open ends, and both edges of wheel and tire lubed up. Connect and begin pumping the air to it. When tire seals on bead you will hear a very loud POP. Do not stop pumping air when you hear the first pop. Keep pumping air to it until you hear the second POP. Release air as soon as you hear the second POP. And since you remembered to remove valve core, all air will release immediately. You probably do not even want know how much air was in tire when second bead pops on.

****Disclaimer****

Mounting a tire, as mentioned above, is really quite hard to do for most people. The above is just a few suggestions on how to make it a little easier for those who have never done it before. These suggestions take no responsibility for those of you who unfortunately get injured while mounting tires. Keep in mind it might just happen. So be careful!