

Tire Dating for DOT Tires

It is quite easy to date a tire. This is how to do it for DOT tires.

This is an image of a rear tire with a DOT date on it.



The Date code is mystically held within the 218 code (the very last 3 digits).

21 = 21st week

8 = 8th year of the decade.

So this tire was made around the end of May in 1988. This agrees well with the date the motorcycle was built.

Note that tires after the year 2000 tires have a 4-digit code. The code is very similar except the year code is now 2 digits. Somebody realized that using a single digit could cause confusion for a tire 10 years old. As an example the above tire code would then be 2188.

This is the front tire off the same motorcycle.



So this "198" code tire was made the 19th week of the 8th year (mid-May 1988), again agreeing with the bike's manufacture date.

