The EV tire problem:
Why electric vehicles burn through rubber faster

EVs are quiet, smooth, and quick, and that instant response can come with an annoying surprise: tires that wear out sooner than you expected. So what's actually happening and what can you do about it?

Why EVs wear out tires faster

Most of the "EV tire problem" comes down to three forces working together.

- **Instant torque:** Quick launches can scrub tread because the tire has to transmit immediate force to the road.
- **Extra vehicle weight:** Batteries add significant weight, which increases the load on the contact patch.
- **Regenerative braking:** Regen changes deceleration forces and can contribute to different wear patterns over time.

What makes EV tires different

EV tires are often engineered for heavier curb weights, quieter cabins, and efficiency. These design choices can affect tread life, ride feel, and cost.

- Reinforced construction / higher load ratings
- Noise reduction features (including foam inserts on some models)
- Specialized rubber compounds that balance grip, rolling resistance, and durability

What EV tires can cost

Prices vary by size and brand, but many EV drivers pay hundreds of dollars per tire for common mid-range to premium options before install, fees, and alignment.

A simple plan to help tires last longer

Focus on a few controllables, and you'll usually see more consistent wear.

- **Ease into acceleration:** Try a smoother ramp instead of an instant punch.
- **Check PSI monthly:** Use the door-jamb spec (not the sidewall number). Underinflation increases heat and wear.
- **Rotate about every 5,000 miles:** Or follow your owner's manual, especially if your EV is hard on the rears (or fronts) based on drivetrain and regen settings.

Shop now, pay later for your EV tires with Snap's lease-to-own financing. Learn how it works here.