

ALLIGATOR – valves since 1920

Valve caps – an important safety element

A tire valve, millionfold in use, and mostly completely unnoticed, is an important safety element in every vehicle.

A good valve cap with a built-in rubber seal is a basic requirement for the long-lasting function of a valve, and fulfills several functions at once:

- It prevents the intrusion of dirt into the valve interior; dirt particles can prevent the closing of the valve after filling / checking the pressure and lead to leakage.
- Corroded valves are often not tight or do not function. A good valve cap prevents the intrusion of moisture and so prevents corrosion and damage to the valve.
- Dust inside the tire or in the air used for filling can settle in the interior of the valve during inflating or deflating and so prevent the closing of the valve core. A sturdy valve cap with a built-in washer seals the valve securely in this case and so prevents a gradual loss of pressure.



Valve caps save money?

When the tire pressure is too low, it is not only a safety risk but it also costs money. 0,6 Bar too little pressure in the tires raises the fuel consumption by 3% - and when there is 30% less tire pressure the life of the tire is halved. A good valve cap can prevent loss of air and so helps to save money.

Therefore:

Never use a tire valve without a valve cap !

Requirements of a good valve cap:

Material: metal or high-quality synthetic material

- Can reliably bear insertion force
- Has the necessary solidity for proper sealing
- Can be dismantled even in difficult conditions
- Doesn't become soft or crack in warm temperatures



Cross-section valve cap with built-in seal.

Built-in rubber seal

- Seals against the intrusion of dirt and water
- Prevents corrosion of valve interior
- Takes over the sealing function when valve core is dirty

Corrosion protection

- Nickel-plated brass caps prevent corrosion of the valve thread



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Special models

Aluminium and brass don't like each other !
The combination of brass and aluminium leads to electro-chemical corrosion.



Snap-In valve with strong corrosion and new valve.



TPMS valve with plastic cap and alu cap

- Therefore only use the original aluminium or plastic valve caps with aluminium valves – e.g. with TPMS systems (Tire Pressure Monitoring Systems)
- Be careful also with aluminium caps on standard valves: through corrosion, the valve cap can seize up on the valve and forcible dismounting can destroy the valve.

Green valve caps – are often used to show that the tire is filled with nitrogen. Other colours are also used for special purposes.



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Valve extensions – make valves on twin tires or on awkward rims more easily accessible. Please note: Don't use metal extensions with Snap-In valves! Through the increased mass and the resulting centrifugal forces the valve can be stretched too much and become damaged. Therefore for car valves there are special plastic extensions.

Double Seal Valve Caps V2B – **The cost-saver for commercial vehicles** - the tire pressure has to be regularly checked, especially on commercial vehicles; this is sometimes not so easy with up to 18 wheels per rig and valves which are difficult to access, extreme dirt and icy temperatures. This often leads to the tire pressure not being checked regularly; the results are a decidedly increased safety risk, a higher fuel consumption and a noticeably shorter tire-life.



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The **ALLIGATOR Double Seal Valve Cap V2B** provides a remedy. It doesn't need to be removed for filling or for checking the pressure and so helps to save time and money.

Never use a tire without the appropriate valve cap !!!



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