WHAT'S IN AND WHAT'S OUT FOR TYRE CUSTOMISATION

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The advice of our expert Fabien Marlier is very clear: tyre customisation is all well and good, but there are limits to what you can do without compromising on safety and performance, especially when it comes to trucks, for which both these elements are particularly crucial.

TIP N°01

Wide tread tyres

Wide tread tyres and their "virile" look may be cool, but make sure using them on your truck's front wheels won't impact manoeuvrability and performance. They tend to increase fuel consumption and reduce steering precision – which is why the traditional design of front wheel tyres is thinner.

There's nothing wrong with opting for antisplash tyres just for their look, even if your truck remains in regions where it doesn't rain much, but **always make sure technical requirements come first, and visual aspect second.**

TIP N°02

Colouring

Colouring tyre walls by highlighting their inscriptions or adding motifs isn't bad for performance or safety, in fact there is no regulation against it. But depending on the nature of the ink or paint you use, there might be a long-term impact due to its penetration in the rubber. Formulations containing solvents or grease can be aggressive and affect the mechanical resistance of tyres that are designed to last up to five years, when you factor in retreading. **Stick to water-based paints containing nothing but pigments to avoid such problems.**

TIP N°03

Cleaning

Finally, if you want your wheels to sparkle and shine, clean your tyres **using non-aggressive, non-toxic formulations.** There are now solvent-free, eco-friendly cleaning products on the market, free of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that are noxious for humans and planet. Might as well be clean all the way, right?