2012-2020 Chevrolet Sonic | Moderate | 45-75 minutes | $60 DIY

TOOLS

Tire-pressure gauge and air compressor or pump Floor jack, rated jack stands, and wheel chocks Lug wrench and calibrated torque wrench

PARTS

Digital tire pressure gauge $15.00
Portable 12V tire inflator $45.00
Valve-stem caps (replacement set, if worn or cracked) $5.00

STEPS

1. **Check cold tire pressures against the door-jamb sticker - Check pressures cold - the car** must have sat at least three hours or been driven less than a mile. Press the gauge onto each valve stem and record all four. Use the door-jamb sticker's cold-inflation pressures, never the maximum molded i...
2. **Inflate or deflate each tire to its listed pressure - Add air to tires below sticker** pressure and bleed any above it, re-checking until each matches exactly. Screw valve caps back on finger-tight. While each wheel is accessible, inspect for cuts, bulges, embedded nails, and uneven wear - ca...
3. **Rotate the wheels in the pattern for your drivetrain - With the parking brake set and** wheels chocked, loosen each lug nut half a turn on the ground, then lift one end onto rated jack stands - never work under a jack alone. Rearward-cross: fronts straight back, rears cross diagonally to the o...
4. **Refit the wheels and tighten lug nuts in a star pattern - Hand-start every lug nut to** avoid cross-threading, then snug in a star pattern. Lower the car until the tires touch ground and torque to your owner's-manual spec - it varies by trim, and a guessed number warps rotors or strips studs. Re-...
5. **Relearn or reset the tire pressure monitoring system - Do a TPMS relearn after rotation:** ignition ON, engine OFF, open Tire Learn, press SET/CLR - horn chirps twice. Trigger each sensor (LF, RF, RR, LR) with a TPMS tool; it chirps per sensor, twice when done. No TPMS tool? Change that tire's...
6. **Check the spare tire while you have the gauge out - Check the spare too - spares lose air** over time, and a flat spare is no help roadside. Inflate it to door-jamb pressure, or the pressure molded on a temporary spare's sidewall. Confirm the hold-down or winch moves freely so you can reach...
7. **Test-drive and verify the job - Test-drive on a familiar road: new vibration, pulling, or** thumping can mean a wheel isn't seated flat on its hub. The TPMS warning should stay off. Back home, re-check all four cold pressures once the tires cool, and re-check lug-nut tight...

TORQUE

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