

Healey Tire Information

British Wire Wheel quoted the following information.

The original Healey tire was 5.90 x 15 with a diameter of 26". Compared to the 26" original, what ever you lose in diameter on an installed tire you lose half of that from ride height.

BWW gave the following diameters for other tires:

175 x 15 - 26" (diameter)

165 x 15 - 25.3"

185/70 x 15 - 25.5"

195/70 x 15 - 25.8"

195/65 x 15 - 24.8"

So if their info is correct, the 175 gives original ride height, if 175's are still made. The 165 most of us use cuts height almost half an inch, more when under inflated. The 195/65 rides only a quarter of an inch lower than the 165. The 195/70 would seem to be a great choice, wonder who makes them. Parenthetically, I am told that the 195's need 5.5" rim width.

The 175 x 15 tire is still made and sold by Coker Tire Company in the Michelin ZX pattern. If you want to carry the larger 195 tire in your boot, then partially deflate the tire and carry a can of instant spare with you. If you want to add the sticky tire repair material, buy the Wal-Mart type. if you want just compressed air, buy the replacement unit from a GM or Chrysler dealer.

One thing to consider is this. I find that the 195 tire (tyre for you Brits out there) does not fit in the trunk (boot) Well at least if you want to close the darn thing. It is a slightly larger diameter tire and the lid hits it when in the trunk.

You may want to save one of the 165's for a spare. Perhaps someone out there has a different experience, but this is mine

Three months ago, I bought a set of 4 175x15 Michelins through the local Discount Tire Store (that is its name) in San Diego. They got them from Coker Tire in Tennessee, delivered in about 5 days. Price was quite reasonable.

I have Michelin 175-15s on Dayton 72 spoke stainless wires on my BN7. The tire is the "ZX" design and purchased a number of years ago from British Wire Wheel for a little less than \$100 per. They are great so far and ride smoother and corner better than the Dunlop SP4 165-15s I had previously mounted on the same rims. The 175-15 is an

unusual size and rarely will anyone find one in stock anywhere except specialty stores like BWW or Coker.

1960 BT7 I purchased my new wheels and tires from British Wire Wheels and Charles was the person who helped me. My tires are Michelin 175R15 radials. I was a little concerned about radials but Charles indicated that there would not be a problem. I recently took my BN7 MKII3000 two seater out for a trial run. Although the car stutters at about 3000 rpm in 4th, it cornered beautifully and I am well pleased with the stainless steel wire wheels and tires. Charles is a knowledgeable person and I appreciated his help.