insider info.



Suggested Measuring Device

As you are no doubt aware, all-wheel-drive (AWD) systems are sensitive to variations in tire circumference. Measuring and confirming variations between the tires should be the first step when troubleshooting AWD operation. Differences of as little as 1/4 inch can have an effect.

Subaru recommends the use of a steel tape measure with a thin 1/4 inch blade width to closely follow the tire contour and give accurate results. While these tape measures are commonly available at most hardware stores in 3 and 6 foot lengths, the 10 foot length tape is needed to accommodate larger tire diameters. It may take a little searching or even a special order, but most of the better-known manufacturers, such as Lufkin or Stanley, offer a 10 foot steel tape in the desired 1/4 inch width.