

tubes be replaced. Inner tubes should be patched only in emergency situations when replacement tubes are not available. If replacing an inner tube, be certain to select the correct size for the tire casing. If repairing a punctured inner tube, be certain to locate and eliminate the cause of damage.

WARNING:

Patching may adversely affect wheel balance. Also, a poorly bonded patch may cause subsequent tire deflation.

Tire removal and installation:

- a. Remove the wheel assembly as described in Front or Rear Wheel Removal, pages 72–73.
- b. Remove brake backing plate assembly and/or axle, so wheel can be laid flat. Lay wheel assembly on a rag or cardboard to prevent hub surface damage.
- c. Remove valve core and valve stem retaining nuts. Locate and remove any sharp objects imbedded in the tire.
- d. Step on tire casing to break it free from the rim. Repeat on the opposite side.
- e. Using two small or medium size irons, placed 4–6 in. (100–150 mm) apart and inserted between the rim edge and tire bead at the valve stem location, pry in and downward with both tire irons while depressing the tire bead opposite the tire irons with your foot. When tire bead is above the rim edge, remove one tire iron and move it 3–4 in. (76–100 mm) further away from the tire iron supporting the tire bead and insert and pry the tire bead further off of the rim. Proceed in this manner until the entire side of the tire casing is above and clear of the rim edge.