

Looking for your insight again for tires on my '79 928 Spyder with Jacquemond body kit.

The car currently has the Carrera II Lightweights



FRONT 225/40 ZR18 mounted on 8Jx18 ET 50 wheel  
REAR 285/30 R18 mounted on a 10Jx18 ET65 wheel

The new wheels I'm going to install on the car are:

Front - 18x8 - offset 57 (recommendation seems to be a 235/40-18)

Rear - 18x10 - offset 65 (recommendation seems to be a 285/35-18)

On the fronts, according to an approved width chart, a 245 is the maximum width tire I should run on an 8" wide wheel and on the rears, a 305 tire is the maximum width tire I should run on a 10" wide wheel.

OK, here comes the part where I need your help....

The information I could find on the OEM wheel & tire setup says that the '79 928 came with 7" x 16" et 50 Offset with 225-60/16 on both the fronts and the rears, **so my first**

question is whether this is accurate information.

If so, using the "willtheyfit" wheel & tire fitment calculator, if I compare the stock setup to what's currently on the car, I get this for the Fronts so it looks like the offsets are a good match and the tire stays centered (offset is the same) and it's just a wider tire, but looks to be quite a bit too small in circumference with 6% speedo error.

**YOUR EXISTING SETUP**

WIDTH	PROFILE	DIAMETER
225	60	16
WIDTH	OFFSET	THE RIGHT NUMBERS?
7	50	

**YOUR NEW SETUP**

WIDTH	PROFILE	DIAMETER
225	40	18
WIDTH	OFFSET	THE RIGHT NUMBERS?
8	50	

**Calculate**

	EXISTING	NEW
Diameter	676.4mm	637.2mm
Circumference	2125mm	2001.8mm
Poke	38.9mm	51.6mm
Inset	138.9mm	151.6mm
Speedo error	0%	6.15%
Reading at 30mph	30mph	31.85mph
Reading at 60mph	60mph	63.69mph
Ride height gain	0mm	-19.6mm
Arch gap loss	0mm	-19.6mm

**Popular 18" wheels**

Compared to your existing wheel, this new wheel will have an inner rim which is **12.7mm closer to the suspension strut**. The outer rim will poke out **12.7mm more than before**.

**225 / 60 R 16 on 16 x 7 ET50**  
**225 / 40 R 18 on 18 x 8 ET50**

If I go with the recommendation of a 235/40 I get this

**YOUR EXISTING SETUP**

WIDTH	PROFILE	DIAMETER
225	60	16
WIDTH	OFFSET	THE RIGHT NUMBERS?
7	50	

**YOUR NEW SETUP**

WIDTH	PROFILE	DIAMETER
235	40	18
WIDTH	OFFSET	THE RIGHT NUMBERS?
8	50	

**Calculate**

	EXISTING	NEW
Diameter	676.4mm	645.2mm
Circumference	2125mm	2027mm
Poke	38.9mm	51.6mm
Inset	138.9mm	151.6mm
Speedo error	0%	4.84%
Reading at 30mph	30mph	31.45mph
Reading at 60mph	60mph	62.9mph
Ride height gain	0mm	-15.6mm
Arch gap loss	0mm	-15.6mm

**Popular 18" wheels**

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**225 / 60 R 16 on 16 x 7 ET50**  
**235 / 40 R 18 on 18 x 8 ET50**

which is better, but still has almost 5% speedo error. If I move up 1 more width and

adjust the aspect ratio to a 245/45, I can get almost the exactly correct rolling circumference to stock which is here.

**YOUR EXISTING SETUP**

WIDTH	PROFILE	DIAMETER
225	60	16
WIDTH	OFFSET	?
7	50	THE RIGHT NUMBERS?




**YOUR NEW SETUP**

WIDTH	PROFILE	DIAMETER
245	45	18
WIDTH	OFFSET	?
8	50	THE RIGHT NUMBERS?

**Calculate**

	EXISTING	NEW
Diameter	676.4mm	677.7mm
Circumference	2125mm	2129.1mm
Poke	38.9mm	51.6mm
Inset	138.9mm	151.6mm
Speedo error	0%	-0.19%
Reading at 30mph	30mph	29.94mph
Reading at 60mph	60mph	59.88mph
Ride height gain	0mm	0.65mm
Arch gap loss	0mm	0.65mm

**Popular 18" wheels**






Rota GKR 18" Wheels

Rota Boost Drift 18" Wheels

Rota Force Drift 18" Wheels

Compared to your existing wheel, this new wheel will have an inner rim which is **12.7mm closer to the suspension strut**. The outer rim will poke out **12.7mm more than before**.



225 / 60 R 16 on 16 x 7 ET50

245 / 45 R 18 on 18 x 8 ET50

so these tires would be 10mm wider on each side than my current setup and 5mm taller on each side. **Do you think they would fit or will I have rubbing issues on either the inside or outside? When you see rubbing issues, where do they usually occur?**

The next question is that since the wheels I plan to use have a 57mm offset, **do I just need a 7mm spacer to achieve equivalence to my current setup, or do I need a spacer that's half of that (like 3.5mm) and if it's the half option, should I go with the 3mm or a 4mm?** Here's the chart using the 245/45 tire and the 57mm wheel offset.

**YOUR EXISTING SETUP**

WIDTH	PROFILE	DIAMETER
225	60	16
WIDTH	OFFSET	?
7	50	THE RIGHT NUMBERS?




**YOUR NEW SETUP**

WIDTH	PROFILE	DIAMETER
245	45	18
WIDTH	OFFSET	?
8	57	THE RIGHT NUMBERS?

**Calculate**

	EXISTING	NEW
Diameter	676.4mm	677.7mm
Circumference	2125mm	2129.1mm
Poke	38.9mm	44.6mm
Inset	138.9mm	158.6mm
Speedo error	0%	-0.19%
Reading at 30mph	30mph	29.94mph
Reading at 60mph	60mph	59.88mph
Ride height gain	0mm	0.65mm
Arch gap loss	0mm	0.65mm

**Popular 18" wheels**






Rota SVN 18" Wheels

Rota T2R 18" Wheels

Rota Torque 18" Wheels

Compared to your existing wheel, this new wheel will have an inner rim which is **19.7mm closer to the suspension strut**. The outer rim will poke out **5.7mm more than before**.



225 / 60 R 16 on 16 x 7 ET50

245 / 45 R 18 on 18 x 8 ET57

From the far right graphic, it looks to me like I'd need a 7mm spacer to pull the inner rim out 7mm and push the outer rim out 7mm to get back to the same 12.7mm in and out that my current wheels have, preserving the OEM wheel centerline, unless this centerline is what needs to be changed in order to be able to squeeze in the wider rubber. **In order to go with a 235 or 245 width tire do I need a different width spacer, effectively changing the wheel offset / centerline.** I think someone has installed 8x18 et 56 with 235/40-18 tires on a lowered 79, but can't find the info on this again. **If this worked, was there an extra 5mm of space inside & outside where I might be able to bump up to the 245s?**

OK, now onto the rears...

Here's the comparison of the OEM spec wheels (if these were right) to what's currently on the car.

**YOUR EXISTING SETUP**

WIDTH	PROFILE	DIAMETER
225	60	16
WIDTH	OFFSET	?
7	50	THE RIGHT NUMBERS?




**YOUR NEW SETUP**

WIDTH	PROFILE	DIAMETER
285	30	18
WIDTH	OFFSET	?
10	65	THE RIGHT NUMBERS?

**Calculate**


	EXISTING	NEW
Diameter	676.4mm	628.2mm
Circumference	2125mm	1973.5mm
Poke	38.9mm	62mm
Inset	138.9mm	192mm
Speedo error	0%	7.67%
Reading at 30mph	30mph	32.3mph
Reading at 60mph	60mph	64.6mph
Ride height gain	0mm	-24.1mm
Arch gap loss	0mm	-24.1mm

**Popular 18" wheels**

Rota GKR 18" Wheels    Rota Boost Drift 18" Wheels    Rota Force Drift 18" Wheels

Compared to your existing wheel, this new wheel will have an inner rim which is **53.1mm closer to the suspension strut**. The outer rim will poke out **23.1mm more than before**.






**225 / 60 R 16 on 16 x 7 ET50**  
**285 / 30 R 18 on 10 x 10 ET65**

So they are almost 2" shorter in overall diameter and have 7.5% speedo error.




Providing the extra width and height will fit, a 305/35 is the best match for rolling circumference, but I can only find this size in drag radials. Scaling it back a little to a 295/35 there are many more high performance offerings and I can find matched fronts and rears. Here are those 2 charts.

305/35


**YOUR EXISTING SETUP**

	WIDTH	PROFILE	DIAMETER
	225	60	16
	WIDTH	OFFSET	THE RIGHT NUMBERS?
	7	50	

**YOUR NEW SETUP**

	WIDTH	PROFILE	DIAMETER
	305	35	18
	WIDTH	OFFSET	THE RIGHT NUMBERS?
	10	65	

**Calculate**



	EXISTING	NEW
Diameter	676.4mm	670.7mm
Circumference	2125mm	2107.1mm
Poke	38.9mm	62mm
Inset	138.9mm	192mm
Speedo error	0%	0.85%
Reading at 30mph	30mph	30.25mph
Reading at 60mph	60mph	60.51mph
Ride height gain	0mm	-2.85mm
Arch gap loss	0mm	-2.85mm

**Popular 18" wheels**






Compared to your existing wheel, this new wheel will have an inner rim which is **53.1mm closer to the suspension strut**. The outer rim will poke out **23.1mm more than before**.






225 / 60 R 16 on 16 x 7 ET50  
305 / 35 R 18 on 18 x 10 ET65

295/35


**YOUR EXISTING SETUP**

	WIDTH	PROFILE	DIAMETER
	225	60	16
	WIDTH	OFFSET	THE RIGHT NUMBERS?
	7	50	

**YOUR NEW SETUP**

	WIDTH	PROFILE	DIAMETER
	295	35	18
	WIDTH	OFFSET	THE RIGHT NUMBERS?
	10	65	

**Calculate**



	EXISTING	NEW
Diameter	676.4mm	663.7mm
Circumference	2125mm	2085.1mm
Poke	38.9mm	62mm
Inset	138.9mm	192mm
Speedo error	0%	1.91%
Reading at 30mph	30mph	30.57mph
Reading at 60mph	60mph	61.15mph
Ride height gain	0mm	-6.35mm
Arch gap loss	0mm	-6.35mm

**Popular 18" wheels**



Compared to your existing wheel, this new wheel will have an inner rim which is **53.1mm closer to the suspension strut**. The outer rim will poke out **23.1mm more than before**.





225 / 60 R 16 on 16 x 7 ET50  
295 / 35 R 18 on 18 x 10 ET65

So only about a 2% error.



I was concerned about the 75 mm of additional wheel width, but since that's what's currently on the car and doesn't seem to be causing any issues, will provide one final

chart, which compares the current rear setup on my car vs the new setup using the 295/35 tire.

**YOUR EXISTING SETUP**

	WIDTH	PROFILE	DIAMETER
	285	30	18
	WIDTH	OFFSET	<a href="#">? THE RIGHT NUMBERS?</a>
	10	65	


**YOUR NEW SETUP**

	WIDTH	PROFILE	DIAMETER
	295	35	18
	WIDTH	OFFSET	<a href="#">? THE RIGHT NUMBERS?</a>
	10	65	

**Calculate**


	EXISTING	NEW
Diameter	628.2mm	663.7mm
Circumference	1973.5mm	2085.1mm
Poke	62mm	62mm
Inset	192mm	192mm
Speedo error	0%	-5.35%
Reading at 30mph	30mph	28.4mph
Reading at 60mph	60mph	56.79mph
Ride height gain	0mm	17.75mm
Arch gap loss	0mm	17.75mm

**Popular 18" wheels**




Rota Boost Drift 18" Wheels

[DETAILS](#)



Rota Force Drift 18" Wheels


[DETAILS](#)



Rota GRA 18" Wheels

[DETAILS](#)

Compared to your existing wheel, this new wheel will have an inner rim which is **the same distance from the suspension strut as your current wheel**. The outer rim will poke out **the same as before**.



285 / 30 R 18 on 18 x 10 ET65

295 / 35 R 18 on 18 x 10 ET65

so the same placement of the wheel under the car and a tire that's just 5mm wider on each side, so as long as I have more than 5mm clearance with the current wheel/tire, **should I be OK here with a 295/35 rear?**

Thanks for your insight and expertise.