## **Rim-Strip Installation**

The purpose of a rim strip is to provide a buffer between the rubber tube and the metal rim. Spoke nipples, spoke holes, and valleys need to be covered to avoid damaging the tube. Ideally, a rim strip will meet two criteria: 1) Cover the entire inside of the rim from wall to wall and 2) Fill rim valleys, if present.

## How to size and install rim strip:

- 1. Wipe the inside of the rim clean with a dry rag before installing a rim strip.
- 2. Find an appropriately-sized rim strip. The rim strip should cover the floor of the rim from wall to wall, but it should not extend up the walls of the rim, which could interfere with the tire seating properly.
- 3. If the rim has a valley, it should be leveled by first laying narrower rim strips
- 4. Installing a rim strip:
  - a) Stand the wheel vertically on a rubber mat, with the axle parallel to the ground.
  - b) If you are using a rim strip with a pre-cut hole for the valve, align the hole with the valve hole in the rim. If you are using a rim strip without a pre-cut hole, start installing it right next to the valve hole.
  - c) Push the rim strip firmly onto the rim, then pull tension on the rim strip and continue pushing the rim strip onto the rim as you unroll more.
  - d) Continue to cover the rim until you come back around to the valve hole. Make sure not to cover the valve hole. Cut off the excess so that the rim strip goes right up to the edge of the valve hole.



Valley in need of leveling



Valley leveled by 4 layers of rim strip and ready for its 5<sup>th</sup> rim strip



Single-wall rim with 4 valley-filling strips and 1 top rim strip



Double-wall rim with 1 rim strip







Rim strip should go right up to the edge of the valve hole