

## Ford Raptor loves to go play off-road

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DRUMHELLER, Alta: Most people think of the Ford SVT Raptor pickup as one of the most potent vehicles on the road, and it is.

But did you know it is just as capable off-road?

At a press presentation of the full line of Ford F-Series pickups held in Drumheller, Alberta, there were several different comparative exercises such as fuel economy, towing, payload and off-road.

Beside an ordinary looking F-150 4X4 was a Raptor looking like it was ready to leap off the line to an off-road test track with serious down hills, tight climbing turns and undulating "whoopededoes".

Available in SuperCab and SuperCrew configuration, the SVT Raptor is fitted with a 6.2-litre SOHC V8 engine, producing 411 hp and 434 lb/ft with a 5-1/2 foot box. Power goes through an electronic six-speed automatic transmission with tow/haul mode and SelectShift Automatic functionality.

The 4WD system features electronic shift-on-the-fly capability from the transfer case that can be selected by a rotary knob on the centre stack for 2H, 4A, 4H and 4L (two-wheel high, all-wheel-drive, four-high and four-low).

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When it comes to going down steep inclines, standard Hill Descent Control is what you want. The Raptor also comes with available "beadlock" rims (shown) that lock the tire to the special forged wheel to prevent them rolling off when air pressure has been reduced to extreme grip conditions.

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