

# GM heavy duty trucks

General Motors Corporation has reaffirmed its commitment to full-size pickup trucks with the all new Heavy-Duty (HD) versions that will be arriving in dealerships this fall.

To be marketed as the Chevy Silverado HD and GMC Sierra HD, they will boast more powerful gasoline and diesel engines, more capable transmissions and segment-leading tow/haul ratings.

GM's new heavy-duty pickups will come in three-quarter and one-ton versions and will be powered by an enhanced standard Duramax diesel 6600 or Vortec 8100 V8 engines. The Duramax diesel 6600 and Vortec 8100 V8 engines can be mated to an all-new Series 1000 Allison 5-speed automatic transmission. For those who prefer shifting their own gears, a new ZF 6-

speed manual transmission is also available.

The Duramax Diesel 6600, the product of a joint venture between GM and Isuzu, will deliver 300 horsepower and 520 lb./ft. of torque.

The standard Vortec 6000 has been pumped up with the addition of aluminum cylinder heads, a new camshaft, lower restriction exhaust system and alternative fuel capabilities. It has a targeted 325 hp and 370 lb./ft. of available torque. All this, and lower emissions, too.

Underneath these all-new trucks, a torsion bar front suspension provides higher GVW ratings and load-carrying capability, as well as better handling, a more precise alignment, smoother ride and greater overall durability. Standard four-wheel disc brakes have larger rotors and pads to yield a much longer brake life than before.

With the factory-installed weight-distributing hitch, the trailer weight rating can reach up to 12,000 pounds, when properly equipped. With a fifth-wheel or gooseneck-style hitch, that capacity nears 16,000 pounds.

A Gross Combination Vehicle Weight Rating (GCWR) of 22,000 pounds puts Silverado HD and Sierra HD at the head of their class. And Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) numbers are 9,200 pounds for the 2500HD models and up to 12,000 pounds for the 3500 Series.

The new Silverado HD and Sierra HD models are available in regular cab, 4-door extended cab, Crew Cab and chassis-cab models. The Silverado HD's bold new look includes a distinctive heavy-duty front end design that features a massive gold bowtie set against its heavy-gauge chrome grille.

Drivers have a comfortable command of all controls with easily readable instrument panel displays, plus the Message Center, which monitors and informs on 18 vehicle operations. There's also the GM-exclusive transmission fluid temperature gauge that monitors this vital function, especially important for heavy-duty towing.

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