

The NHTOC

The National Harley Truck Owners Club (NHTOC) was officially launched in February 2002. Harley Truck enthusiasts on the National Lightning Owners Club (NLOC) website requested a section on the NLOC forum, but it was decided to design a dedicated forum for the Ford Harley Truck owners. The website began operation as a forum only, but has grown at a fast rate. In late 2005, the forum-based website was replaced with a full service site, that included a shopping cart style merchandise section, as well as full featured galleries. The original NHTOC logo was also updated at the same time to give the website a new, more modern look and feel.

Thanks to Josh "Harley#356" Verdieck, NHTOC member #3, whose hard work and vast knowledge of Harley Truck details helped make this information complete.

In 1999, Ford & Harley-Davidson decided to join forces and start a five-year alliance between the two companies in preparation for their celebration of both their 100 year anniversaries in 2003. They put out surveys, and found that most Harley motorcycle enthusiast drove Ford trucks, so it was only natural to combine Harley-Davidson's legendary styling cues with America's best selling truck.

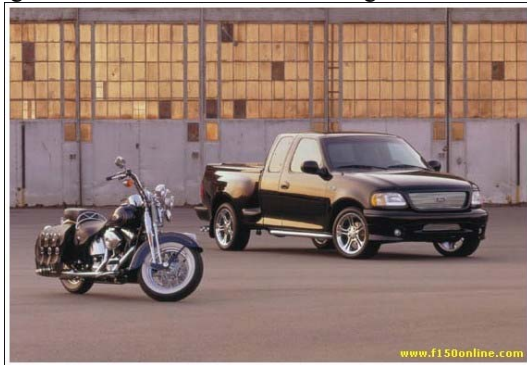


Figure 1. Harley Truck Concept

In mid 2000, they revealed the first joint-effort production of their alliance together. This truck hit the streets and got a huge response back. It was the first American production vehicle to ever come with 20" rims all the way around (The Plymouth Prowler was the first American car with 20" rims, but only on the rear). This was just before the start of the "big wheel" craze, and unlike today, seeing a truck rolling on 20" chromed wheels was quite a site to see then! The main slogan to the 2000 Harley Trucks was "*Born In Detroit, Dressed In Milwaukee.*" This fit quite well since Harley had quite a large part in the design of the truck before Ford put it into production. Most specifically, Harley did the major designing on the black leather interior, rim design, and tuned the exhaust note to fit their liking, and had hand in getting the factory lowered stance into the play. A little unknown fact is Ford originally wanted quite a bit of chrome on the truck, bumpers, mirror covers, grille surround, etc., and it was Harley that voted to make everything monochromatic, with just a billet grille, chrome rims, nurf bars, and exhaust tips. Ford made a total of 8,197 Harley trucks in 2000 with production running from April through October of the model year. All of the

2000 HD Trucks were extended cab, flareside bed, with the 5.4 liter naturally aspirated V8.



Figure 2. Harley Truck 2000

In 2001 Ford released the super crew body style, and it was only natural to have the Harley Edition F-150 in the new crew cab variation. As in 2000, the truck came in any color as long as it was black, and had the same basic exterior accents. The slight differences with the new year came mostly in the interior with new stitch patterns on the seats, and bucket seats front and rear. Also Harley wanted to change up the pinstripe in 2001, and moved it from a 3mm Harley-Orange stripe up top, to a 3 mm Harley-Orange stripe down along the rockers with a much larger gray pinstripe beneath it. 2001 is probably the most under-appreciated year Harley Truck to date, but with only 6,381 produced, they are one of the rarest Harley Trucks.



Figure 3. Harley Truck 2001

With sales of the 2001 Harley Truck slightly down in comparison to the 2000's, Ford and Harley knew they had to do something to spice up the mix a little bit. They made the usual changes to the interior with updating the seats and consoles and instrumentation, but more profoundly they decided to put a detuned 5.4 liter Lightning motor in the crew cab Harley Truck to up the horsepower quite a bit to 340 horsepower and 425 torque. This was a tremendous hit, and more 2002 Harley Trucks were produced than any other year, an amazing 12,505! They also decided to throw another color into the mix of things, and added Dark Shadow Gray in addition to the standard Black. They also updated the fender emblems to say "supercharged" and updated the headlights to a clear lens design, and updated the billet grille. Another cool little fact about the 2002's is when Harley was trying to decide what to do with the pinstripe accent, Willie G himself of Harley-Davidson took a grease pencil and hand drew a flame pinstripe on the side of the truck. Everyone liked the idea so much that a near exact copy was made and turned into the pinstripes & console lid stitching on the 2002's.



Figure 4. Harley Truck 2002

For 2003, everybody was quite excited to see what Ford and Harley would come out with to celebrate their 100th anniversaries. The basic body style stayed the same as the previous two years, with the usual updates to the interior, seat stitching and colors, 100th anniversary emblems, etc. The only change under the hood was painting the blower and plenum black instead of gray, and they also changed the lower valance with an updated shape. One of the biggest things that make the 2003's unique over any other year was the special 100th anniversary pin striping that matched the pin striping on the 2003 Harley-Davidson motorcycles, with hundreds upon thousands of fine "Harley-Davidson" scripts holograms in a cross-hatch pattern down the entire pinstripe. They also revised the available colors in 2003 to have Black over Silver to match Harley's 100th anniversary bikes, in addition to all Black, making a total of 10,047 trucks produced in 2003.



Figure 5. Harley Truck 2003

With the new body style F-150 out in 2004, there were rumors left and right flying out about what the next Harley Edition Truck would look like, since there was one year left to Ford and Harley's 5-year alliance. Since Ford satisfied the "sport truck" enthusiasts with the 2000-2001 trucks, and the "performance truck" enthusiasts with the supercharged 2002-2003 trucks, they came in with a different approach in 2004. Trying to fill a niche for the customers who needed a truck with four wheel drive, the ability to tow massive weight, yet still wanted to ride in style, they turned to the Super Duty line in 2004. This came as a shock to many, and most of the first generation truck owners weren't the biggest fans of Ford and Harley's decisions. Over 10,000 units were produced in 2004, proving that there really was a market to tap into, and they had just the ticket. Again some interior updates were made,

the rims were 18" polished aluminum, had the typical Harley Edition badges throughout the truck, nurf bars, exhaust tip, pinstripe, etc. One of the most unique factors about the 2004's was the paint options. In addition to trusty old Black, the 2004's could be ordered in Black over Dark Shadow Gray, or Black over Orange as well. Also, the 2004's could be ordered in crew cab or extended cab, F-250 or F-350, short bed or long bed, and with a 6.0 liter V8 Turbo Diesel, or a 6.8 liter V10 Triton. Out of all the years, the 2004's had the most available options to choose from, and all of them came in 4-wheel drive.



Figure 6. Harley Truck 2004

In 2005, Ford & Harley renewed their alliance for another two years, yet surprisingly, with the updates done to the 2005 Harley Super Duty, it is the rarest of both the 1st generation Harley F-150's and the 2nd Generation Harley Super Duties with only a little over 5,000 units produced. The most special feature of the 2005's was the paint options. Again Harley-Davidson wanted to incorporate some sort of flames into the truck, and Ford was completing the development of their new wet-on-wet paint process which was perfect for what Harley had in mind. The 2005's could be ordered in Black with Red ghost flames along the bottom of the rocker panels, in True Blue with Wedgewood Blue ghost flames along the bottom, or once again, trusty ol' plain Black with a Harley-Orange pinstripe. Among the other changes were the usual interior updates to the seats, new HD logo hydro-graphics on the interior trim panels, and 20" polished aluminum rims, blacked out headlights, and unique billet grille. The 2005's were only offered in a crew cab configuration, but were available in the F-250 or F-350 platforms as in 2004, and all of them 4-wheel drive.



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Figure 7. Harley Truck 2005

For 2006, Ford & Harley started on a 3rd generation Harley Truck, returning it back to the F-150 platform. In many ways it is a return to its roots, because many of the aspects that make up the 2006 are very similar to the 2000. Once again it as returned to an extended cab, and "comes in any color as long as it's black." The pinstriping is Harley-

Orange with blue outlining, and the interior is all black leather with HD hydrographic logos on the trim pieces. The headlights are blacked out, nurf bars with chrome accents, chrome exhaust tips and billet style grille. The engine is the new 3-valve 5.4 liter naturally aspirated V8, putting out a respectable 300 hp. Just as in 2000, the 2006's offer another "first ever" for Ford when it comes to the rims. With 20's now being the every day norm, the 2006 Harley F-150 comes with massive 22" polished aluminum rims with Pirelli tires. Another first for the 2006, and any Ford Truck for that matter, is the optional All Wheel Drive, which is only available on the Harley Truck.



Figure 8. Harley Truck 2006

The big curveball that Ford just recent threw, though, is the announcement that the Super Duty Harley Trucks will continue to be produced into 2006! This came to a surprise as many, especially since it's the first time ever that Ford has offered two different Harley Edition vehicles at once. Unfortunately, there aren't any major updates to the 2006 Super Duty Harley Truck past the 2005 model, other than the colors. It will be offered in Black with Sonic Blue ghost flames, Dark Shadow Gray with Black flames, or Toreador Red with Black flames. Other than the colors, it is identical to the 2005.

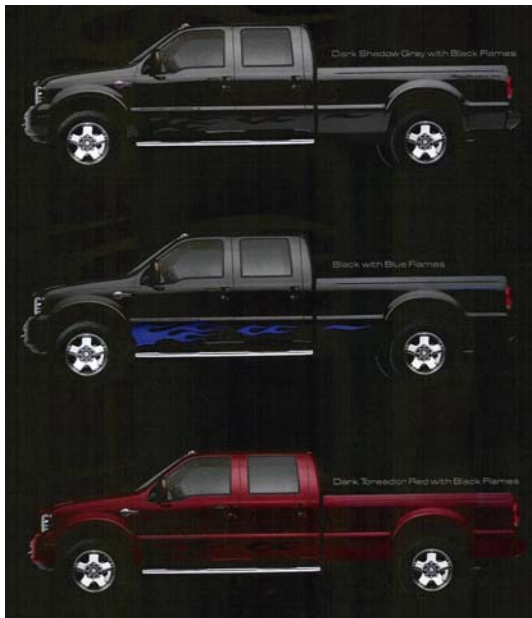


Figure 9. Harley Truck 2006 Super Duty

With the 2006 being the last year of the extended 7-year alliance between Ford and Harley-Davidson, it's still a mystery what 2007 holds. With the success of the Gen 1, 2, & 3 Harley Trucks, there's a very good chance the

alliance will be renewed once again. Also, with how the 2006 Harley F-150 shares so many similarities with the 2000, it leaves a very strong hint that history will repeat itself, and some very nice Harley-Edition trucks are in the near future!

Gen. 1 Harley Trucks:

2000-2003 F-150's

2000

Extended Cab, 5.5' Flareside Bed, 20" Rims
5.4L Naturally Aspirated Triton V8, 4x2
Black Only

2001

Crew Cab, 5.5' Bed, 20" Rims
5.4L Naturally Aspirated Triton V8, 4x2
Black Only

2002

Crew Cab, 5.5' Bed, 20" Rims
5.4L Supercharged Triton V8, 4x2
Black or Dark Shadow Gray

2003

Crew Cab, 5.5' Bed, 20" Rims
5.4L Supercharged Triton V8, 4x2
Black or Black/Silver Two Tone

Gen. 2 Harley Trucks:

2004-2006 F-250/F-350's

2004

Extended or Crew Cab, 6' or 8' Bed, 18" Rims
6.0L Turbocharged Powerstroke or 6.8L Triton V10
4x4
Black, Black/Orange Two Tone,
or Black/Dark Shadow Gray Two Tone

2005

Crew Cab, 6' or 8' Bed, 20" Rims
6.0L Turbocharged Powerstroke, or 6.8L Triton V10
4x4
Black, Black w/ Red Flames,
or True Blue w/ Wedgewood Blue Flames

2006

Crew Cab, 6' or 8' Bed, 20" Rims
6.0L Turbocharged Powerstroke, or 6.8L Triton V10
4x4
Black w/ Sonic Blue Flames, DSG w/ Black Flames,
or Toreador Red w/ Black Flames

Gen. 3 Harley Trucks:

2006-20?? F-150's

2006

Extended Cab, 6.5' Bed, 22" Rims
5.4L 3 Valve Triton V8, AWD
Black Only