

FREE SAMPLE

The opening pages of

1977 Ford F-Series Dentside Restoration Guide

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so you can judge the depth before you spend a dollar.

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Factory-Correct Restoration Reference

1977 Ford F-Series Dentside Restoration Guide

Model Years 1977

Model year	1977 - the 351M and 400 replace the FEs
Engines	300, 302, 351M (new), 400 (new), 460
Code change	H now means 351M; S (400) joins
New this year	Cowl badges; fuel-filler door; F-150 4WD (F14)
VIN format	11-character; SuperCab X-codes formalized

Every specification in this guide was checked against factory literature, marque references, period road tests, and documented survivor vehicles. Where sources disagree or the record is silent, this guide says so rather than guessing.

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How This Guide Works

This is a **single-year restoration** guide for the 1977 Ford F-Series - one year of the sixth generation (1973-1979), the “Dentside” trucks named for the stamped body-side recess. The year gets its own guide because Ford changed these trucks every year - cab styles, series codes, engine codes that change meaning mid-generation, grilles, and headlamps - and a factory-correct restoration matches the year on the warranty plate. Specifications were checked against the 1973-1979 Ford Truck Master Parts Catalog data published by FORDification and the LMC Truck identification references. Where sources disagree, this guide prints the disagreement instead of guessing.

Scope. Covers 1977 F-100, F-150, F-250, and F-350 light-duty pickups, chassis-cabs, and SuperCabs. Medium-duty trucks and the 1978-79 Bronco (separate guide) are outside this guide's scope.

Where 1977 sits in the run

- Coming in: the last FE year - 360/390 power, fender badges, and an exposed fuel cap.
- Leaving: 1978 replaces the split grille with a single-piece unit, moves the F-O-R-D letters to the hood, and splits headlamps by trim. A 1977 face is the last of the original design.

Platform Snapshot

Fact	Detail
Model year	1977 (Dentside year 5 of 7)
Body styles	Regular cab, crew cab, SuperCab; Styleside/Flareside; chassis-cab
Drive	2WD and 4WD; F-150 4WD (F14) replaces F-100 4WD
Engines	300 I6; 302; 351M; 400; 460
Transmissions	3-speed manual; C4/C6 automatics; NP435 4-speed
Transfer case (4x4)	NP205 (married)
Front brakes	Discs standard on F-100/F-150

The 1977 Register - What Makes a 1977 a 1977

- The FE engines are gone. The H engine code is REASSIGNED from the 390 to the 351M 2-bbl (335-series), and the S code (400 2-bbl) joins the roster. An H-code 1976 is a 390 FE; an H-code 1977 is a 351M - different engine families, different parts, different torque specs.
- Identifying badges move from the lower fender and tailgate to the cowl, just above the dent line near the A-pillar, in smaller insignias.
- A fuel-filler DOOR replaces the exposed fuel cap.
- The F-150 4WD (F14) replaces the F-100 4WD (F11) - the half-ton 4x4 is an F-150 from here to the end of the generation.
- SuperCab series codes (X10-X35) are formalized in the catalog for 1977-79.
- The “Super” is dropped from Super Camper Special naming; the medium-duty F-500 ends after 1977.
- Ford records 818,580 F-Series built for the 1977 model year - the generation at full stride.



VIN and Warranty-Plate Decoding

Same 11-character warranty-number system as the Bumpside: series (3) + engine (1) + plant (1) + consecutive unit number (6). Decode the door warranty plate for paint, trim, axle, and transmission codes as well. **Warning:** two engine codes change meaning inside this generation - always decode with the model year attached.

Code	Series (1977)
F10	F-100 2WD pickup
F14	F-150 4WD pickup (new)
F15	F-150 2WD pickup
F25 / F26	F-250 2WD / 4WD pickup
F35	F-350 2WD pickup
F37 / F38	F-350 2WD / 4WD chassis-cab
X10-X35	SuperCab variants (formalized)

Code	Engine (1977)
A	460 V8
B	300 I6 1-bbl
G	302 V8 2-bbl
H	351M V8 2-bbl (reassigned - was 390)
S	400 V8 2-bbl (new)
J	460 V8 4-bbl

460 and 4WD. The 460 remains a 2WD engine from the factory in this generation.

Engines

Engine	Family	Notes
300 I6	Ford I6	Base engine
302 V8	Windsor	2-bbl
351M V8	335-series	2-bbl (H); new for 1977
400 V8	335-series	2-bbl (S); new for 1977
460 V8	385-series	4-bbl (A/J); 2WD only

The 351M/400 are 335-series engines - they share almost nothing with the FE engines they replaced. Do not carry FE torque values, exhaust, or accessory drives into a 1977 build; the torque table in this guide separates the families.