

FREE SAMPLE

The opening pages of

1982 Chevrolet Squarebody Restoration Guide

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Factory-Correct Restoration Reference

1982 Chevrolet Squarebody Restoration Guide

Model Years 1982

Model year	1982 - 6.2 diesel and 700R4 arrive
Engines	250, 292 I6; 305, 350 (restricted), 454 V8; 6.2 diesel (new)
Trim ladder	Custom Deluxe / Scottsdale / Silverado (Cheyenne dropped)
Transmissions	700R4 overdrive auto joins
Identifiers	Chrome bumper/grille standard; diesel badging

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.

Published by RestorationEssentials



How This Guide Works

This is a **single-year restoration** guide for the 1982 Chevrolet and GMC C/K - one year of the Rounded Line (1973-1987 pickups), covered on its own because that is how these trucks were built and how they must be restored. Specifications were checked against the marque model history and powertrain tables, the Raybuck restoration reference, and period sales literature. Where sources disagree, this guide prints the disagreement instead of guessing.

Scope. Covers 1982 C10/C20/C30 (2WD) and K10/K20/K30 (4WD) pickups and chassis-cabs. Blazer/Jimmy and Suburban share this architecture and have their own RestorationEssentials guides. GMC trucks share the platform but carry their own trim names and badging, noted where they differ.

Where 1982 sits in the run

- **Coming in:** the 1981 facelift, in its second year - same face, new diesel, new overdrive.
- **Leaving:** 1983 revises the grilles again and drops the two-headlight front for a year.

Platform Snapshot

The Rounded Line (the public's 'Squarebody') ran as the C/K pickup from 1973 to 1987, then as the R/V in heavy and SUV roles to 1991. 1982 trucks are late, facelifted trucks: the hoodline is lowered and sloped, wipers park exposed on the cowl, and side markers are horizontal.

Fact	Detail
Model year	1982
Designation	C = 2WD, K = 4WD; 10/20/30 = 1/2-, 3/4-, 1-ton
Wheelbases	117.5 in (short bed), 131.5 in (long bed), 164.5 in (crew cab)
Fuel tanks	Outboard of the frame rails (sidesaddle layout)

The 1982 Register - What Makes a 1982 a 1982

- The 6.2L Detroit Diesel V8 (135 hp) replaces the Oldsmobile 350 diesel across the line - now offered on 1/2-ton trucks and on 3/4- and 1-ton trucks. Diesel trucks get specific fender and tailgate badging.
- The 700R4 four-speed overdrive automatic is introduced - the fuel-economy automatic, and the transmission whose TV cable must be set exactly right (see note).
- The Cheyenne trim is discontinued (consolidated into Silverado); the line runs Custom Deluxe / Scottsdale / Silverado. GMC drops the Sierra Grande the same year.
- Chrome front bumper and chrome-trim grille become standard equipment; 3/4- and 1-ton trucks switch from 16.5-inch to 16-inch wheels for tire availability.

VIN Decoding (17-Digit)

1982 trucks use the standardized 17-digit VIN. The 8th digit is the engine code - the single most important character when verifying a truck's original powertrain - and the 10th digit is the model year. The glovebox SPID label remains the final word on factory options.



8th digit	Engine
T	292 inline-6
G	305 V8, 2-bbl
F / H	305 V8, 4-bbl
P	350 V8, 2-bbl
L / M	350 V8, 4-bbl
W	454 V8, 4-bbl
C	6.2L diesel (1982+)

Engines

Six engines for 1982, with the new Detroit diesel.

Engine	Output (net)	Notes
250 I6 (LE3)	130 hp; 210 lb-ft	2-bbl Varajet
292 I6 (L25)	120 hp; 215 lb-ft	Heavy-duty six
305 V8 (LG9/LF3)	130-155 hp; 240 lb-ft	Volume V8
350 V8 (LS9)	175 hp; 275 lb-ft	Not on US C10 (1981-86)
454 V8 (LE8)	230 hp; 360 lb-ft	Heavy-duty applications
6.2 diesel	135 hp; 240 lb-ft	NEW; Detroit Diesel; 1/2-ton and up

Reading Chevrolet casting and date codes

- Block casting number: driver's-side rear bellhousing flange. Assembly stamp: front passenger-side deck pad - month/day plus suffix code.
- Decode casting number, casting date, and suffix together; the casting date should precede the truck's build date by weeks.
- Truck suffix tables differ from passenger-car tables, and the format changed around 1970 - decode truck engines with truck references.

Transmissions and Transfer Cases

Unit	Type	Application
3-speed manual	Column shift	Base, early years
SM465	4-speed manual	Heavy-duty; granny-low first
TH350 / TH400	3-speed auto	Carried over; phasing out
700R4	4-speed overdrive auto	NEW for 1982
NP208	Part-time, chain-driven	Light-duty 4x4
NP205	Part-time, gear-driven	1-ton K-trucks