

Portland Observer Auto Review

News and reviews on new motor vehicles

2008 Ford SD F-250 4X4 SuperCab Lariat 142" SB Styleside 6.4 V8 Diesel

BY KATHLEEN CARR

Sometimes, a regular coffee just won't do it. You need something on the order of a double cappuccino to get the job done - something with more kick, more muscle. For pickup truck buyers needing a similar boost, there's the Ford F-250 Super Duty.

For most folks, a half-ton pickup truck, such as Ford's own F-150, is more than adequate, easily handling the occasional hauling and towing chores Joe Suburbanite may throw at it. Transporting goods from Home Depot, moving the kid to college and towing a pair of jet skis or snowmobiles aren't a problem for a half-tonner. But for equestrians, owners of large boats and those who tow trailers that resemble rolling condos, a 3/4-ton pickup is a must. Ford's entry in this class is the 2008 F-250 Super Duty.

There's no mistaking this thing in your rearview mirror; in fact, it makes a Chevy Suburban seem small as you follow close behind

one. But its graceful malevolence (if you can say that about a really big pickup). Ford calls the effect they were working to achieve, "tough luxury," and it's fair to say they pulled it off.

More than just the aggressive, in-your-face looks, the freshened front end styling brings a functional advantage. The higher hood, bigger grille and redesigned front bumper all allow more cool air to reach the radiator.

The 2008 Ford F-250 Super Duty has been fully redesigned. Under the skin, a number of major upgrades take place. Ford says the chassis is stronger than before and now has a new type of coating for improved corrosion resistance. The rear suspension has also been tweaked to improve ride and handling without compromising capability.

For power, there's an updated version of the PowerStroke diesel engine. It now displaces 6.4 liters and makes an impressive 350 horsepower and 650 pound-feet of torque. This en-



This is not your Grandpa's truck anymore!

Specifications: 6.4-liter, 350-hp @ 650 lb-ft. torque Power Stroke diesel V-8 Engine; Torqshift 5-speed automatic transmission; \$51,040.MSRP

gine runs on ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel, which is better for the environment because it produces fewer tailpipe emissions than traditional diesel fuel.

Also new this year are higher-grade cabin materials, a standard MP3 audio jack, available power telescoping/folding side mirrors and a unique, drop-down tailgate step that makes getting into the bed easier.

Let's talk about "tough luxury" - here are some of the high points

of the interior features of the F-Series SuperCab. With the 40/60 split-bench front seat, driver and passenger have individually reclining backrests. The driver is faced with comprehensive, clearly-legible instrumentation, and everything that needs to be is close and easy to operate.

The view outward is superb, as the new styling job has included a low beltline and big windows all around. The only gripe we had was a vertically-

narrow inside rear-view mirror. All SuperCabs include a third door as standard equipment, on the passenger's side, for access to the back seat.

Antilock disc brakes are standard, but neither side- nor side-curtain airbags are available. Power-adjustable pedals are optional on XLT and Lariat models (equipped with automatic transmission), as are rear park-

ing sensors.

It is first and foremost a heavy-duty work truck, a vehicle for the real world where the big Ford truck works for you. It's a little bit of a contradiction in terms to think of "truck" in the same sentence with "cutting edge, aerodynamic styling," but with the new Ford F-Series, we think it works.

It is not a pickup for poseurs - for people who want to look cool in a big truck that has the ride and gentle manners of a limousine. Nor is it meant for daily commuting between genteel suburbs and gentrified city centers. The F-250 Super Duty SuperCab is a four-wheel-drive workhorse. It hauls manure as opposed to producing it in word-processing machines.

There's a lot to like about it in addition to the look. The interior is extraordinary, the new V8s are silky and strong, the ride and drive is exceptional and it's full to the brim with worthwhile features. We don't see how you could go wrong unless you are looking for a fuel-efficient workhorse; if so keep on looking. Ruggedness and durability are premium truck qualities; this truck earns its keep.

BUSINESS directory

Les Whitworth C.P.A.
and bookkeeping services
5421 NE 33rd Avenue
Portland, OR 97211
Phone 503-295-1939 Cell 971-344-6414
Fax 503-295-1065
www.leswhitworthcpa.com
email: les@leswhitworthcpa.com

Calvin Kyles - Broker
Commercial and Residential
Finding the right loan is not hard when you have a great Lender Relationship.
We are - LOCAL!
Reduce your monthly debts starting today!
Get rid of that 1st and 2nd mortgage payment for a **One Loan Fixed Rate Mortgage.**
Call today for your - Personalized Rate Quote!
503-972-2719 office ~ 503-975-2769 cell
ckyles@mtglender.com
www.calvinkyles.com

Wally Testa
Residential and Commercial Broker
Oregon/Washington
503-267-7586 cell
503-249-1903 office
503-249-6527 fax
wtesta1@comcast.net

Kens Mobile D.J. Services
Weddings
Birthday Parties
Family Reunions
Business Functions
Concert Promotions
Private Parties
Night Clubs
Fund Raisers
Receptions
School Functions
Class Reunions
Banquet
Kenneth Scott
DJ Service On The Move
E-mail: dewayn525@yahoo.com 503.442.5089
"Tough times don't last but tough people do"

U-Licious SMOKEHOUSE And grill
Specializing in Smoked & BBQ Meats & Seafood
Beef • Pork • Lamb • Poultry • Seafood
Lunch \$5.95, Dinner \$9.95 and up
Pork Rib, Brisket, Turkey, Chicken, Ox Tails & More
Beer and Wine Available
Open 11:30 AM - 9:00 PM Monday thru Saturday
Fried Shrimp Dinner
10-Large Shrimp \$10⁹⁵
with two sides
4057 N. Interstate Ave. 503-493-9414

Charles McCleoud
CEO
516 SE MORRISON ST, STE 540
PORTLAND, OREGON 97214
BUSINESS 503.234.4452
CELL 503.901.1535

Boanerges Group
Fall & Winter Special
General Contractor
•Carpentry services
•Concrete
•Painting
•Plumbing & Mechanical
•Residential & Commercial Services
•General home maintenance
Call today for estimate or consultation
Tel: 503-281-0224
Fax: 503-284-4419
Email: shamaxhend@acninc.net
4134 N Vancouver Ave, Suite 400E, Portland, OR 97217

Ernest J. Hill, Jr.
Agent
4946 N. Vancouver Avenue, Portland, OR 97217
503 286 1103 Fax 503 286 1146
ernie.hill@statefarm.com
24 Hour Good Neighbor Service®

APRIL JONES
Licensed Esthetician
Nail Tech, Skin Analyst & Make-Up Artist
Image Consulting
CLOTHING
JEWELRY
BODY SHAPE CONSULTING
COLOR MATCHING
Phone: 503.995.4136
aprljns@yahoo.com

Your Care Our First Priority
Dr. Marcelitte Failla
Chiropractic Physician
We are located at
1716 N.E. 42nd Ave.
Portland, OR 97213
(Between Broadway and Sandy Blvd.)
• Automobile accident injuries
• Chronic headache and joint pain
• Workers Compensation injuries
Call for an appointment! (503) 228-6140

Car insurance with **PERSONAL SERVICE.**
No extra charge.
At State Farm you get a competitive rate and an agent dedicated to helping you get the coverage that's right for you and the discounts you deserve. Nobody takes care of you like State Farm. Contact me, I'll prove it.
Michael David Holton, Agent
7223 SW Macadam Avenue
Portland, OR 97219-3076
Bus: 503-517-9090
www.michaelholton.com
LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR, STATE FARM IS THERE.
Providing Insurance and Financial Services
State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company • State Farm Indemnity Company
Bloomington, IL • statefarm.com

New Prices Effective May 1, 2007
Martin Cleaning Service
Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning
Residential & Commercial Services
Minimum Service CHG. \$45.00
Carpet Cleaning
2 Cleaning Areas or more \$30.00 Each Area
Pre-Spray Traffic Areas
(Includes: 1 small Hallway)
1 Cleaning Area (only) \$40.00
(Includes Pre-Spray Traffic Area • Hallway Extra)
Stairs (12-16 stairs) \$25.00
(With Other Services)
Heavily Soiled Area: Additional \$10.00
ADDITIONAL SERVICES
• Area & Oriental Rug Cleaning
• Auto/Boat/RV Cleaning
• Deodorizing & Pet Odor Treatment
• Spot & Stain Removal Service
• Scotchguard Protection
UPHOLSTERY CLEANING
Sofa \$79.00
Loveseat \$59.00
Sectional \$109 - \$139
Chair or Recliner \$35 - \$49
Throw Pillows \$5.00
(With Other Services)
See Flyers for Additional Prices
Call For Appointment
(503) 281-3949