

Portland Observer Auto Review

News and reviews on new motor vehicles

2011 Ford F-150 4x2 Supercab

BY KATHLEEN CARR

The Ford F-150 made some changes for 2011, there are four new engines available, several new trims are offered and the broad range of cab styles and pickup box lengths



Tested Vehicle Information: 5.0L V8 FFV engine; Electronic 6-speed transmission; 15 City MPG, 21 Highway MPG; MSRP \$34,110, Tested MSRP \$40,050.

are still being offered. The F-150 still offers the XL, STX, XLT, FX4 and Lariat trims, but for 2011, the FX2 is available on the 4x2 models.

Ford new engines are mated to a fuel efficient 6-speed automatic transmission equipped with a tow haul mode. The F-150 has two powerful V6 engines available which consist of a 4-valve, DOHC alumi-

num block 302-hp 3.7-litre and the 365-hp 3.5-litre EcoBoost V6 that incorporates direct fuel injection and twin turbochargers to deliver considerable power and yet be very fuel efficient. The two V8 engines that are available include the 4-valve DOHC 360-hp 5.0-litre and the 2-valve SOHC 411-hp 6.2-litre and all four engines deliver impressive towing capabilities. The 6-speed automatic works smoothly, and is not overly anxious to move in to top gear giving you the best fuel consumption. The F-150 suspension to deliver smooth ride and quiet composure by truck standards. It will still bounce some on rough surfaces.

The Roomy Supercab is larger than some sedans in the market. The leg room and seating for the rear

passengers will provide ample room for larger passengers with out having to seat side ways. The comfortable ride included captain chairs with a large center console. It actually refreshing to have a control consoles that easy to function when your are driving not one that you have to spend a few hours on trying to use it. It was pure comfort riding in the F-150 for long periods of time.

The FX2 (2WD) and FX4 (4WD) feature a towing package, 18-inch wheels, black-framed headlights and taillights, front bucket seats, a six-way power driver seat, an auto-dimming rearview mirror, the Sync multifunction voice-command system (includes Bluetooth and an iPod/USB audio interface), a trip computer, a 110-volt power outlet and satellite radio. The FX4 also includes underbody skid plates and retuned springs/shock absorbers. The Lariat offers upscale interior trim, leather upholstery, heated eight-way power driver and passenger seats with power-adjustable lumbar, power-adjustable pedals, a power-sliding rear window and dual-zone automatic climate control.

The Ford Truck lineup has been one that the competition has always wanted to out do with the new engine line up and select for will remain one of the top contenders.

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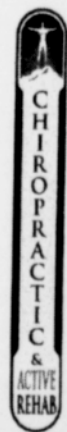
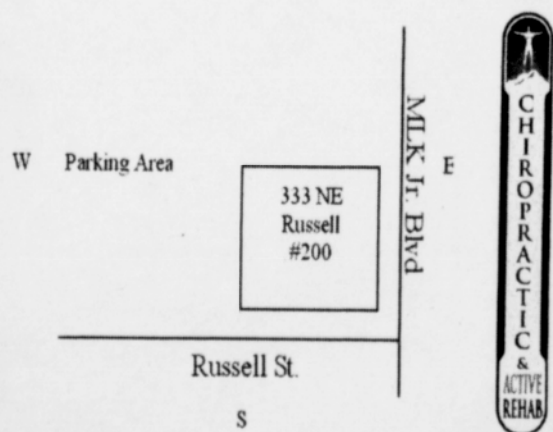
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