

## Ford 1979 Ford Truck

# 1979 Ford Truck Maintenance and Lubrication Manual

Essential Procedures and Specifications for Your Vehicle

## INTRODUCTION

This manual provides comprehensive maintenance and lubrication instructions for all 1979 Ford Truck models. Adhering to the procedures outlined herein will help ensure the longevity, reliability, and optimal performance of your vehicle. Regular maintenance is crucial for safe operation and to preserve the value of your Ford Truck.

Please read this manual thoroughly before performing any maintenance or lubrication tasks. Always use appropriate safety precautions and refer to specific service manuals for detailed repair procedures beyond routine maintenance.

## MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

### Engine Oil and Filter Change

Regular engine oil and filter changes are vital for engine health. Refer to the 'Specifications' section for recommended oil type and capacity.

1. Warm the engine to operating temperature, then shut it off.
2. Place a drain pan under the oil drain plug. Remove the plug and allow oil to drain completely.
3. Remove the old oil filter. Apply a thin film of new oil to the gasket of the new filter.
4. Install the new filter, tightening according to manufacturer specifications (usually hand-tight plus 1/2 to 3/4 turn).
5. Reinstall the drain plug with a new gasket if necessary, tightening to specified torque.
6. Fill the engine with the recommended amount and type of new engine oil.
7. Start the engine and check for leaks. Verify oil level on the dipstick after a few minutes of operation and after the engine has been off for a few minutes.

### Transmission Fluid Check and Service

Check transmission fluid levels regularly. For automatic transmissions, check with the engine running and warm, in

Park or Neutral. For manual transmissions, check with the engine off and cold.

- **Automatic Transmission:** Use the dipstick located on the passenger side of the engine compartment. Add recommended fluid if below the 'FULL' mark.
- **Manual Transmission:** Fluid level should be at the bottom of the fill plug opening.
- Refer to the 'Lubrication Schedule' for recommended service intervals.

## Brake System Inspection

Inspect brake fluid level, brake pads/shoes, rotors/drums, and brake lines for wear or damage at recommended intervals.

- Maintain brake fluid level between MIN and MAX marks. Use only DOT 3 brake fluid.
- Check brake pad/shoe thickness. Replace if worn to minimum specifications.
- Inspect brake lines for leaks, cracks, or corrosion.

## Cooling System Maintenance

Maintain proper coolant levels and ensure the system is free of leaks. Use a 50/50 mixture of approved coolant and distilled water.

- Check coolant level in the reservoir when the engine is cold.
- Inspect radiator hoses for cracks or swelling.
- Flush and refill the cooling system at recommended intervals.

## LUBRICATION SCHEDULE

Adhere to the following lubrication schedule to ensure all moving parts are adequately protected against wear. Use recommended lubricants as specified in the 'Specifications' section.

Component	Interval (Miles/Months)	Lubricant Type
Engine Oil & Filter	3,000 miles / 3 months	API SG/SF 10W-30 (or as specified)
Chassis Lubrication (Grease Fittings)	6,000 miles / 6 months	Multi-purpose Lithium Base Grease
Automatic Transmission Fluid	24,000 miles / 24 months (Inspect)	Type F Automatic Transmission Fluid
Manual Transmission Fluid	30,000 miles / 30 months (Inspect/Change)	SAE 80W-90 Gear Lubricant
Differential Fluid	30,000 miles / 30 months (Inspect/Change)	SAE 80W-90 Hypoid Gear Lubricant
Brake Fluid	Inspect at every oil change	DOT 3 Brake Fluid

## SPECIFICATIONS

This section provides key specifications for 1979 Ford Truck models. Always verify specific requirements for your

exact vehicle configuration.

- **Engine Oil Capacity (typical):** 5-6 quarts (including filter)
- **Recommended Engine Oil:** API SG/SF 10W-30 (for most climates)
- **Automatic Transmission Fluid:** Type F Automatic Transmission Fluid
- **Manual Transmission Fluid:** SAE 80W-90 Gear Lubricant
- **Differential Fluid:** SAE 80W-90 Hypoid Gear Lubricant
- **Brake Fluid:** DOT 3 Brake Fluid
- **Coolant Type:** Ethylene Glycol based, 50/50 mix with distilled water
- **Tire Pressure (typical):** Front: 30-35 PSI, Rear: 35-40 PSI (refer to tire placard on vehicle)
- **Spark Plug Gap:** 0.035 - 0.045 inches (varies by engine)

## BASIC TROUBLESHOOTING

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This section covers common issues and basic diagnostic steps. For complex problems, consult a qualified service technician.

### Engine Cranks but Won't Start

- Check fuel level.
- Verify battery charge and connections.
- Inspect spark plugs and ignition wires for damage.
- Ensure fuel filter is not clogged.

### Overheating Engine

- Check coolant level in radiator and reservoir.
- Inspect radiator and hoses for leaks or obstructions.
- Verify fan operation.
- Consider a faulty thermostat or water pump.

### Poor Braking Performance

- Check brake fluid level.
- Inspect brake pads/shoes for wear.
- Listen for grinding or squealing noises.
- Bleed brake system if pedal feels spongy.