Chevrolet Pickup Truck

1953 Thriftmaster

I am the second owner. The truck was purchased in 1977 from the widow of the original owner. It had been in storage for several years prior to my purchase. I drove the truck for several years, then gave it to my son when he enlisted in the Air Force. When he returned home, I again acquired the truck and put it in storage. The restoration was begun in 2002 following my retirement.

All mechanical systems have been restored as follows:

Drive Train

- Engine 235 (19 head bolts) rebuilt professionally.
 Approximately 500 miles on the engine.
- . Transmission 4 speed manual floor shift.
- . Clutch replaced.
- Drive shaft carrier center bearing replaced.
- . Universal joints replaced.
- . Rear wheel axle seals replaced.

Pinion Seal Replaced.

Fuel System

. Fuel tank including fuel pickup and fuel level sensor in fuel tank replaced.

Fuel tank shut off valve replaced.

- . Fuel pump replaced. Fuel bowl with integrated filter style.
- . Carburetor and fuel lines replaced.

Carburetor to distributor vacuum line replaced.

Electrical System

- . New wiring harness throughout.
- . New voltage regulator and horn relay.
- . New starter motor.

New headlight switch.

- . Ignition system (coil and spark plug wires) replaced.
- . Generator brushes replaced.
- . Battery new. Original six volt system retained.
- . After market turn signals operational.

Brakes

- . Master cylinder and wheel cylinders replaced.
- Drums turned and new brake shoes installed.
- . All brake lines and hoses replaced.

Instruments

- . Speedometer/Odometer replaced.
- Oil pressure, temperature, ampere meter, and fuel level gauges operational.

Cooling System

 Radiator, heater core, heater valve, water pump, thermostat, all hoses and clamps replaced.

Chassis

- . Original split rim wheels replaced with 16 inch, 8 lug wheels.
- . Spacers for all four wheels installed to provide proper tire offset.
- . Box to frame mounting system replaced.

. Box floor boards and spacers replaced.

Interior

- . Bench seat repaired and reupholstered with vinyl.
- . New headliner, door panels, sun visors and arm rests.
- . New floor pad and mat, brake and clutch pedal covers.
- . New parking brake pedal cover.
- . New door gaskets.
- . New window gaskets (windshield and rear window).

Side window channels lining replaced.

Glovebox replaced.

Wiper motor (vacuum) replaced.

. All windows operational.

Miscellaneous

Tires are tubeless with less than 500 miles. Full moon hub caps are period correct. These are 16 inch tires which introduce a 6.7% error in the speedometer and odometer readings.

Over all Body

This was originally a working heavy duty farm truck. There are small dents and blemishes in the body. There is no rust damage anywhere.

Original grain bin has been rebuilt and lowered to provide rear and passenger side visibility.

Defects

- . Muffler has one inch hole. Hole has been patched.
- . Steering wheel has several cracks. Cracks have been repaired.

- Dash lights not connected properly to the light switch. Requires removing headlight switch and reconnecting dash lights lead to proper terminal.
- . Interior fire wall cover has wear, due to foot rubbing on it when pressing floor starter button. Damaged area has been painted.

Included with truck

- Large assortment of parts. Includes ignition, electrical, fuel system, cooling system and body parts.
- . 1954 Mechanics Repair Manuel.
- . Tow bar for towing truck using bumper hitch.
- Bottles of lead fuel additive.
- Original eight lug wheel centers and hub caps. Needed if restoring original 15 inch wheels.

This is a rare working heavy duty farm truck meant to be driven and enjoyed. It is not presented as a show truck. Paint is good for the age of the vehicle but is not show quality.