



Isuzu's 2002 NQR

# Top TRUCKS

BY VICKY POULSEN

**W**ho's got the best truck? We'll let you be the judge. As truck manufacturers continue to clamor to get their latest and greatest models to market, we invite you, our readers, to enter their inner sanctum by taking a peak at the hottest trends in the truck market today. Welcome to their world!

## Chevrolet-GMC

**Product:** W4500 and W5500 medium-duty crew cabs and WT5500 single-axle extended cab

### Best features:

- ▶ Duramax 7800 6-cyl. diesel engine with 200 hp at 2400 rpm and 441 lbs. per ft. of torque at 1500 rpm
- ▶ Vacuum/hydraulic with 4-channel ABS
- ▶ Greater maneuverability

**Product:** C-Series medium duty trucks — Classes 5-8

### Best features:

- ▶ New 2000/2400 Allison automatic transmissions
- ▶ Vortec 8100 MD V-8 gas engine (Cat 3126E diesel, 190 to 300 hp listed as an option)
- ▶ Four-wheel anti-lock hydraulic brakes

## Check out the hottest features on the hottest new trucks

- ▶ Front three-passenger bench with head restraints
- ▶ Government Vehicle Weight Ratings (GVWR) range from 18,000 to 61,000 lbs.
- Product:** T-Series, tilt-cab medium duty trucks/Class 5 through lower end of Class 8
- Best features:**
  - ▶ Available in single axle, tandem axles and LoPro models
  - ▶ Accommodates bodies up to 28 ft. and payloads up to 40,000 lbs.
  - ▶ Shorter lengths and tighter turn radius especially popular in congested areas

**Product:** GMC's Sierra 1500 HD (available in either 2WD or 4WD crew cab short box models)

### Best features:

- ▶ Vortec 6000 SFI V-8 engine
- ▶ Sunshade extender
- ▶ OnStar available on SLE
- ▶ 7-way to 4-way trailer adapter included with Z82 training package
- ▶ Fog lamps now included with SLT

**Product:** Chevrolet's Silverado 1500

**Best features:**

- ▶ Powered by Vortec 4300 SFI for a V-6 engine or a Vortec 4800 or 5300 SFI for V-8 engines
- ▶ Available in either automatic or manual transmission
- ▶ Air conditioning is standard on all trim levels
- ▶ Remote keyless entry available on base models

**Dodge**

**Product:** 2001 Dodge Ram (available in both two-wheel drive and four-wheel drive in regular cab, club cab and quad cab and various box sizes and payload capacities.)

**Best features:**

- ▶ The Ram quad cab features two rear-hinged doors in the back of the cab that serve as convenient access for people or a large storage area for gear
- ▶ Available in a wide range of Magnum V-6, V-8 and V-10 gasoline engines, along with the Cummins turbo diesel engine
- ▶ Four-speed automatic or five-speed manual transmission is available
- ▶ Dodge Magnum gas engines feature sequential multi-port fuel injection (SMPI) for immediate throttle response and a flat torque range that delivers load carrying power
- ▶ High-flow exhaust manifolds combine with tuned port and combustion chamber configurations for maximum horsepower

**Product:** 2001 Dodge Dakota quad cab

**Best features:**

- ▶ Four full-size doors with six-passenger seating and great towing and hauling capability
- ▶ Offers a range of engines with four Magnum engine choices. Two optional Magnum V-8s — the only two in the compact pickup segment — include the 230-hp 4.7-liter engine and the 250-hp 5.9-liter V-8. Can be coupled to a fully automatic, electronically controlled automatic transmission with a dual ratio second gear
- ▶ A 6700-lb. maximum towing capacity and 2,100-lb. maximum payload

**Product:** 2001 Dakota R/T compact pickup

**Best features:**

- ▶ Equipped with a 5.9-liter Magnum V-8 engine and a large-bore, free-flow exhaust that delivers increased engine performance
- ▶ The 250-hp engine is mated to a four-speed transmission and supported by

255/55x17-in. tires. The Dakota R/T is lowered one inch and features suspension tuning and front and rear stabilizer bars

**Ford**

**Product:** 2001 F-150 Supercrew

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**Best features:**

- ▶ SUV-sized cabin with four full size doors for up to six adults, with the added versatility of a pickup box
- ▶ An under-8,500-lb. (3,856 kg) gross vehicle weight (GVW) pickup truck with four full size doors and full rear passenger compartment
- ▶ Its foundation is the chassis of the 139-in. wheelbase SuperCab
- ▶ The pickup box measures 1.7 metres (5.5 ft.) long and is the same width at the wheel-houses as the rest of the F-150 lineup
- ▶ Offers a choice of two Triton V-8 engines, both of which meet federal Low Emission Vehicle (LEV) standards, combined with a proven F-Series 4-speed automatic transmission
- ▶ The 4.6-litre SOHC Triton V-8 delivers 220 hp at 4,500 rpm and 290 lb. ft. of torque at 3,250 rpm. The 5.4-litre SOHC Triton V-8 churns out 260 hp at 4,500 rpm with torque of 350 lb. ft. at 2,500 rpm
- ▶ Standard four-wheel anti-lock braking system (ABS)

**Product:** 2001 F-Series Super Duty trucks (250/350/450/550)

**Best features:**

- ▶ Super Duty F-350 DRW equipped with the 7.3L Power Stroke turbo diesel engine with 11,500 GVWR. The 7.3L Power Stroke turbo diesel engine has even more horsepower and torque this year
- ▶ All Super Duty F-Series pickups will be trailer-ready with a standard trailer towing package, and a 4-wheel Antilock Braking System (ABS) is standard on all trim levels
- ▶ Three different engines are available — the standard 5.4L SOHC Triton V-8 is rated at 260 hp and 350 lb.-ft. of torque; the 7.3L Power Stroke turbo diesel V-8 produces 250 hp (15 more than last year) and 505 lb.-ft. of torque with the automatic transmission,

and 275 hp and 520 lb.-ft. of torque when joined to a manual transmission; the 6.8L SOHC Triton V-10 puts out 310 hp and 425 lb.-ft. of torque

- ▶ A 5-speed manual overdrive transmission is standard with the gasoline-powered Super Duty F-Series and features wide ratio gearing to quickly reach maximum torque. A 6-speed manual overdrive transmission is standard on Super Duty F-Series trucks equipped with Ford's Power Stroke turbo diesel engine
- ▶ The optional 4-speed automatic transmission has an automatic tow-haul feature that adjusts shift patterns for hilly terrain, heavy tow loads and high altitude driving
- ▶ All Super Duty F-Series pickups are trailer-ready with the trailer tow package as standard equipment
- ▶ Super Duty F-350, F-450 and F-550 chassis cabs have the power trains to suit the diverse needs of commercial and governmental fleets

**Hino**

**Product:** FB medium-duty Class 5 truck

**Best features:**

- ▶ An 11,000-lb. body and payload capacity
- ▶ It can be specked as a flatbed, with stake beds or with a small dump body
- ▶ Powered by a turbo intercooled, four-valve overhead cam engine and driven through a five-speed direct drive transmission, or optional four-speed automatic
- ▶ Its cab-over design makes driving in tight residential areas easy
- ▶ Cab features an enlarged interior with room for three people
- ▶ A six-way adjustable air-ride driver's seat with improved support on a chassis that is supported by long, taper-leaf springs



**FB medium-duty Class 5 truck**

**Product:** Utility Service Van (USV)

**Best features:**

- ▶ Designed for the business that needs a stand-up work area and maximum storage space for tools and equipment
- ▶ Spacious interior and exterior compartments supply abundant storage for equipment and supplies and are quickly accessible with the walk-through cab design
- ▶ A large, open cargo space provides extra hauling room and doubles as a covered work center.
- ▶ Up to 65% more storage space than a conventional van and up to two tons of payload capacity.

**Product:** Grand Challenger

**Best features:**

- ▶ Body is constructed with galvanized steel and designed to match the style of your truck cab
- ▶ Contoured sides, concealed hinges, a flush tailgate, and fuel fill doors
- ▶ Keyed alike locks, double panel steel doors, and weather-tight seals
- ▶ Adjustable shelves and material trays

**Mitsubishi Fuso**

**Product:** 2002 FE-SP with crew cab

**Best features:**

- ▶ Hauls seven people to a job site with its new 175-hp engine
- ▶ Can handle any application with 14,500-lbs. GVWR

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**Isuzu's 2002 low cab forward Crew Cab (NPR-HD and NQR)**

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- ▶ Accommodates landscaping dump bodies in the 13- to 14-ft. range and lawn service bodies up to 16- to 17-ft.

**Toyota**

**Product:** 2001 Tundra full-size pickup truck

**Best features:**

- ▶ I-Force V-8 engine is the only double overhead cam (DOHC), 32-valve V8 ever offered in a full-size pickup
- ▶ Electronic Throttle Control System with intelligence (ETCS-i)
- ▶ Toyota Direct Ignition system (TDI)
- ▶ Standard V-6 engine with four-speed automatic or five-speed manual transmission
- ▶ Optional V-8 engine with four-speed automatic transmission

**Product:** 2001 Tacoma Stepside

**Best features:**

- ▶ Part of a value package that includes several upgrades
- ▶ Available on regular and Xtracab 4x2 Tacoma models, powered by either four-cylinder or V-6 engines

- ▶ Cargo box is a solid steel unit

**Isuzu**

**Product:** 2002 NQR

**Best features:**

- ▶ A gross vehicle rating of 17,950 lbs. and a body/payload range from 11,733 to 11,965 lbs.
- ▶ Body lengths range from 12 to 20 ft. with a choice of four different wheelbase lengths
- ▶ A straight channel ladder-type frame with a section modulus of 7.20 cu. in. and a Resistance Bending Moment (RBM) of 316,800 lbs.
- ▶ Equipped with front and rear semi-elliptical, multi-leaf springs and shock absorbers
- ▶ A front stabilizer bar contributes to greater handling and steering capabilities
- ▶ Equipped with ABS
- ▶ 4.75-liter, 4HE1-TC, four-cylinder diesel engine
- ▶ It incorporates an overhead cam engine design and direct fuel injection. This 4HE1-TC is rated at 175 gross hp @ 2,700 rpm and 347 ft.-lbs. gross torque @ 2,000 rpm
- ▶ NQR offers a choice of transmissions

**Product:** 2002 Low Cab Forward Crew Cab (NPR-HD and NQR)

**Best features:**

- ▶ Seats a crew of seven people comfortably

- three across in front and four abreast in back
- ▶ Available in two wheelbase configurations — a 150-in. wheelbase accommodates 12-ft. bodies and a 176-in. wheelbase handles 16-ft. bodies
- ▶ The Crew Cab's diesel engine, coupled with a four-speed overdrive automatic transmission, delivers 175 hp at 2700 rpm
- ▶ Visibility is enhanced with an oversized panoramic view front windshield
- ▶ The NPR-HD Crew Cab is rated at 14,500 lbs. GVWR. The NQR is rated at 17,950 lbs.
- ▶ NPR-HD Crew Cab features 4,500 lb. GVWR; 150-in. wheel base and 176-in. wheel bases; accommodates 12-ft. bodies
- ▶ NQR Crew Cab features 17,950 lb. GVWR; 150-in. wheel base and 176-in. wheel base; accommodates 16-ft. bodies.

**Product:** 2002 Class 6-7 F-Series commercial trucks

**Best features:**

- ▶ Class 6 FSR, Class 6 to 7 FTR and Class 7 FVR are powered by an Isuzu 6HK1-TC diesel engine in two horsepower configurations
- ▶ The 7.8-liter overhead cam engine is turbocharged, intercooled and equipped with electronic fuel injection
- ▶ Installed in the FSR and FTR, the six-cylinder diesel develops 200 hp at 2400 rpm and 441 ft.-lbs. gross torque at 1500 rpm. The version used in the higher payload FVR diesel engine develops 230 hp at 2400 rpm and 506 ft.-lbs. gross torque at 1500
- ▶ All F-Series models include as standard an Isuzu MLD6Q six-speed manual overdrive transmission, synchronized in gears two through six. The transmission has a standard power take off (PTO) opening. Optionally available in the FSR and FTR is an Allison

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"The most valuable truck we use...was custom built to accommodate our needs for large landscaping contracts."  
 — Ryan Hughes, Hughes Nursery

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AT545 four-speed automatic transmission

**Textron Golf, Turf & Specialty Products**

**Product:** Cushman Turf-Truckster work vehicles

- ▶ Added power, bigger payloads and durable, unibody construction
- ▶ Easily withstand the rigors of daily use without neglecting operator comfort
- ▶ Carrying capacity is 2,500 lbs. for the three-wheel version and 2,850 lbs. for the four-wheel version
- ▶ Improvements include 30% more cargo capacity, an independent-axle front end for a smoother ride and tighter turning radius, and stiffer molded plastic unibody construction
- ▶ The floorboard, hood, front end and instrument panel resist damage from rust and impact
- ▶ Powered by a choice of 18- to 34-hp gas or 22.3-hp diesel engines
- ▶ Operator amenities include car-style foot pedals, a console shifter, increased legroom, a 12-volt power plug outlet and a dashboard storage tray

**John Deere**

**Product:** E-Gator utility vehicle

**Best features:**

- ▶ Powered by a quiet electric motor
- ▶ Designed for customers concerned with operational sound levels and exhaust emissions, the electric utility vehicle is a clean, quiet and efficient option for a variety of landscape applications
- ▶ The electric utility vehicle provides the same advantages of the gas and diesel models — low ground pressure to help prevent ground compaction, smooth operation that's easy to learn, safety protections, durability for long life and easy access to service points

for convenient maintenance

▶ Designed for quick acceleration and steady performance between chargings, the electric utility vehicle offers numerous features, including overspeed and roll-away control

▶ A speed control feature governs the vehicle at a top speed of 15.5 mph and helps maintain a constant speed when traveling up or down inclines. Top reverse speed is 8 to 10 mph. The vehicle retains full torque even when on an incline

▶ Equipped with a directional change control

that's designed to slow the vehicle to a stop when changing direction from forward to reverse

**Product:** 6x4 Gator

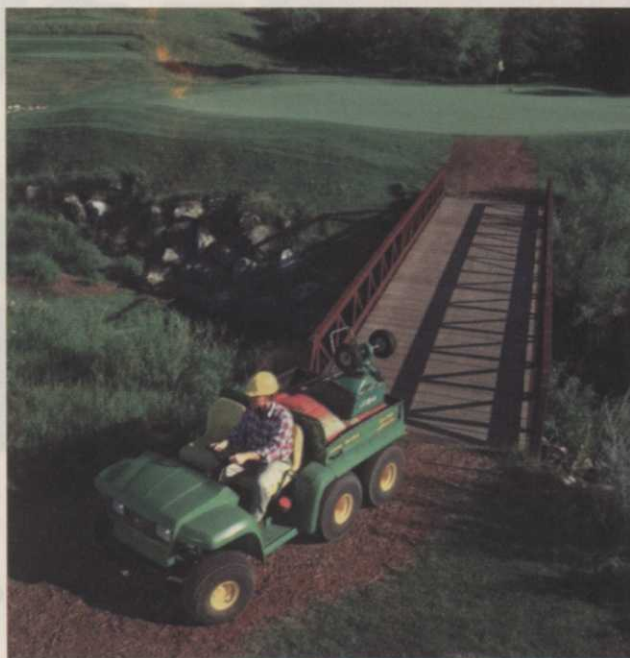
**Best features:**

- ▶ An 18-hp, liquid-cooled engine
- ▶ For extra traction, the 6x4 provides full-time four wheel drive and differential lock
- ▶ Arc-welded unibody design and front suspension
- ▶ 1,200-lb. towing capacity
- ▶ Low ground pressure and a low center of gravity

**Product:** 6x4 diesel Gator

**Best features:**

- ▶ Three-cylinder, 18-hp liquid-cooled Yanmar diesel engine
- ▶ Towing capacity of 1,400 lbs.
- ▶ Low ground pressure and a low center of gravity allow these heavy-duty haulers to



6x4 Gator

work on turf without leaving ruts or marks

**Sterling (a subsidiary of Freightliner LLC)**

**Product:** Acterra

**Best features:**

- ▶ Available in four different models, covering each of the weight classes from Class 5 to mid-range class
- ▶ Can be customized to fit customers' needs. Models are: the 5500, with a GVWR of 19,500 lbs.; the 6500 at 26,000 lbs.; the 7,500 at 33,000 lbs.; and the 8500 at 64,000 lbs.
- ▶ Chassis lowering tires and wheels
- ▶ Horizontal, vertical or transverse exhaust
- ▶ Radiator mounted grille
- ▶ Quick access hood openings
- ▶ Tow hooks—front, rear or both
- ▶ Back-of-cab access package for tractors
- ▶ Two-person passenger seat with tool box