

## 2010 Dodge Ram SLT 2500 Crew Cab 4X4

The truck industry is doing very well even though the automotive economy seems to be still on the ropes. That has not stopped the auto manufacturers, especially Dodge. When times are tough Dodge has done a re-make of their Dodge Ram pickup line up, bolder, stronger, and Motor Trend Truck of The Year Award. I don't know how much credence you should put on magazine's that pick vehicles of the year, but after driving the 2010 Dodge Ram 2500 I was very impressed and would vote for Dodge as well.

The ride and comfort were perfect and every seat in the house was very comfortable. Plus you can haul and tow the heck out of this truck too.

The 2500 series truck I'm testing came from Rancho Dodge up in Kearny Mesa, white in color with the SLT package and the all new Cummins Turbo diesel that has the only standard "Jake Brake" system on their trucks. What is a Jake Brake you ask? Well, if you have been up in the mountains and passing a big rig you hear this distinct rumble while coming down a hill, that is a compression brake built into the diesel engine to help the driver stop his rig safely.

My tester was a 4X4 model, I didn't go off road with this truck, but if you're in snow, mud you will have all the confidence of getting out of just about any off road situation.

My test truck was very well equipped. Standard features worth mentioning are front air bags with side airbags for all occupants and one thing I want to point out is if your looking at quad cab trucks make sure the back seat center position has a head rest, Dodge has made sure that passenger is head-safe! You get a 35 gallon fuel tank, tire pressure monitoring system for the four tires on the ground, heavy duty cooling system, a six speed automatic transmission, anti-lock brakes at all four corners with disc brakes, remote keyless entry, Sentry Key Theft Deterrent, power windows, power heated mirrors, front stabilizer bar, electric shift-on-the-fly transfer case. No more slopping through the mud to lock your front hubs.

Going inside the Dodge Ram 2500 you will find lots of standard comfort features. Dodge was one of the first truck companies to turn the cab into a mini office with a massive center console that will accept a lap top, cell phone, printer and even a fax machine if needed all between you and your front passenger. Not going to the office? Flip up the center console and you have another seat up front that brings the occupant number up to 6 including the driver.

Of course, you will get A/C, a killer sound system with satellite radio, and in the back area you have storage boxes in the floor for those items you don't want running loose in the truck. You get a trip computer and an information center to keep you in tune with your Ram truck. Also, get a compass and an outside temperature gauge, plus tilt wheel.

That is pretty much all your standard features and with a base price for the 2500 minus the diesel engine is \$38,680, plus tax and license. If you're going to opt for the new diesel engine from Cummins then you will have to add \$7,615 to your bottom line which will bring your total up to \$46,295.

My tester was pretty loaded up and the total coming to \$50,705 plus tax and license, but Rancho will help you build the truck you need. One more thing, Dodge Cummins do not have to use that special diesel additive that Ford and GM are using today. This is another cost savings from Dodge to you! So go out and drive one!