

"US Post Office Truck"

1931 Ford Model A

Motor: 4 Cylinder, 201 CID, 40 HP

Brakes: Mechanical

Transmission: 3 Speed Manual non-synchronized

Cargo Body: York-Hoover

Quantity Manufactured: 500

Price New: US Post Office purchase

Post Office # 11317

6 Volt Battery w/positive ground

Tire Size: 4.75-19

Fuel Capacity: 11 Gal. Gasoline

Mail Capacity: 100 cu feet (for "A" Chassis")

Chassis Ordered from Ford for \$365 each in June 1931

After the US Postal Service received a large quantity of Government WW 1 surplus vehicles, there were many different manufactured trucks. The too many different parts had to be available for repairs. The Post Office General decided to standardize their fleet and around the year of 1929, they purchased their fleet from the Ford Motor Company. These trucks stayed in service up to 25 years later. This was because of WW2 and the productions of all trucks were military type vehicles. During that time, the mechanics were called off to the armed services making the post office rehire their retired mechanics, which had been working on the same vehicles for years.



Donated by: Aldie Johnson - Bedford, MA

The trucks were closed cab with a single seat inside. There is a locked door on the cab back wall to enter the rear cargo area. They had a two piece windshield with a painted radiator shell and headlight buckets. Military Campaign posters were mounted on both sides of the truck body. The last of the trucks were retired around 1955. These trucks were used for supplying bundles of mail for the mailmen. This lessened the load for the carriers on their mail routes. Locked green boxes were mounted throughout neighborhoods were called relay boxes. The trucks would distribute the mail to the relay boxes and when the drivers were finished, they would go back to the post office and reload their trucks with parcel post packages because the mail carriers had a limit a three inch diameter for the mail size they could carry.

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