# Table Of Contents

Acknowledgments

# Introduction

# **Chapter 1: Finding a Project Squarebody**

Overview of the 1973–1987 Chevrolet Pickup Year-by-Year Changes Trim Levels Special Editions VIN Decoding The Right Truck for You Ownership Documents Customized Versus Stock Trucks Rust Versus No Rust Engine and Transmission Chassis, Suspension, and Brakes Beater Options Determining Your Skill Level

# **Chapter 2: Getting Started**

Organizing Your Process Choosing the Level of Restoration Setting a Budget Preparing Your Workspace NOS Versus Reproduction Versus Aftermarket Parts Purchasing a Parts Vehicle Organizing and Cataloging Your Parts Tools and Equipment Welding and Metalwork Consumable Materials and Supplies

## **Chapter 3: Bodywork**

- Installing New Cab Mounts
- Body Trim
- Stripping the Finish
- Inspecting for Rust
- Panel Replacement Procedures
- Repairing Bed Rust Damage
- Repairing Cab Rust Damage
- Repairing Dents and Dings
- Applying Body Filler
- Gapping the Panels
- Fixing Factory Issues
- Prep for Paint

#### **Chapter 4: Paint**

- DIY Versus Paying a Professional Equipment Paint Types
- Paint Colors
- Priming

Sealing

**Painting Basics** 

#### **Chapter 5: Engine**

- Analysis of Work Required Engine Removal Engine Installation
- **Rebuilding Basics**

# **Chapter 6: Transmission**

Transmission Types Tools and Equipment Removing the Transmission Disassembling the Transmission Rebuilding Basics

#### **Chapter 7: Drivetrain**

Axle Identification Gearing Rebuilding an Axle

## **Chapter 8: Brakes**

Remove or Replace Brake Lines Front Disc Brakes Wheel Bearings Rear Drum Brakes Bleeding the Brakes

#### **Chapter 9: Suspension**

DIY Versus Paying a Professional Removal and Installation Rebuilding Basics

# **Chapter 10: Electrics**

Tools and Equipment Full-Chassis Harness

## **Chapter 11: Interior**

DIY Versus Paying a Professional Trim Removal Interior Disassembly Interior Reassembly and Refurbishment

# **Chapter 12: Miscellaneous Mechanicals**

Fuel System Badge and Emblems Long-Bed to Short-Bed Conversion

# **Source Guide**