

GMC Sierra 1500 is larger, lighter and stronger and upgraded

All-new design, safety features and updated infotainment are included, plus the cool new tailgate.

by Mary Lowry, HeraldNet

Other than the carryover of two engines from its previous lineup, the GMC Sierra pickup is all new from top to bottom for 2019. It's larger, lighter and stronger, with a barrage of additional safety features and advanced technologies.

Features found on the 2019 Sierra AT4 include a 2-inch factory-installed suspension lift, standard 4WD with a two-speed transfer case, locking rear differential, skid plates, Rancho monotube shocks, 18-inch wheels (20-inch wheels available) with all-terrain Goodyear Wrangler DuraTrac tires, hill descent control, a traction selection system, GMC's MultiPro tailgate, AT4-exclusive exterior and interior trim, red vertical recovery hooks, and a standard 5.3-liter V8 engine (6.2-liter V8 available).

My Sierra AT4 tester came with optional features totaling \$12,150 but reduced \$500 by an AT4 premium package discount. Its 6.2-liter engine, paired with a 10-speed automatic transmission, generates 420 horsepower and 460 pound-feet of torque. EPA fuel economy ratings are 15 mpg city, 19 mpg highway, and 17 mpg combined. With its crew cab configuration and 4WD, maximum towing capacity is 12,100 pounds.

The Sierra cabin is gigantically roomy, almost big enough for passengers to extend their arms in any direction without hitting someone or something. The center console bin is proportionally huge. I could put my fully loaded survival-sized purse into it with enough room left over for big binoculars and a couple of field guides to the birds of North America. Built-in boxes beneath the rear seats provide even more stowage space where items are also hidden from the evil eyes of prowlers.

For all its enormity and off-road paraphernalia, the 2019 Sierra AT4 handles remarkably well on Snohomish County's renowned twisty backroads. I wasn't able to take it off-roading during the test week but there's a stretch of road in east county with temporary paving that is so rough, people drive in the oncoming lane to avoid it (not much traffic on this road, obviously), and I drove the truck on it at 40 mph (5 over the posted limit; I was testing it, officer). Sierra beautifully absorbed most of the bumps.

A rear camera mirror is one of the new features on the 2019 Sierra. With the flip of a switch at the bottom of the rearview mirror, it changes into a camera screen. The camera

view is excellently clear and sharp, but it takes getting used to. Its advantage is to eliminate obstructions such as rear seat passengers and head restraints, and provide a wider field of view.

The 2019 GMC Sierra AT4 got more positive comments from friends, neighbors and strangers than any pickup I can recall

having driven. These people all knew about the MultiPro tailgate because they'd seen GMC's prolific advertising. This industry-first tailgate can be configured in six different ways to make bed access easier, carry longer loads, create a standing workstation, and provide seating for tailgate parties. It's brilliant.

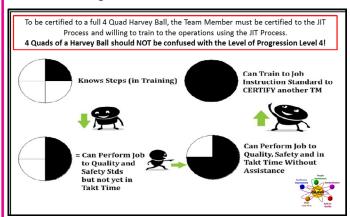




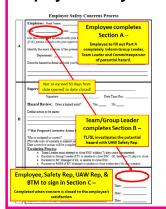
GMS Communications

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4 Quads of a Harvey Ball should NOT be confused with the Level of Progression Level 4!



Employee Safety Concerns Process





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- Escalate to Group Leader if the Team Leader is unable to close. Group leader then has (7) days to close.
- Escalate to Business Team Manager if the Group Leader is unable to close ESC.
- Escalate to the Plant Safety Review Board if the Business Team Manager is unable to close within the (30) day window that starts the day the employee opened the concern.

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