

PICK-UP TRUCK BED LENGTH DEFINITIONS

It is important to clarify the nomenclature of bed length to ensure that the truck rack will fit the pick-up properly.

Standard short bed

The **standard short bed**, sometimes simply called the standard bed, is by far the most popular type of pickup truck bed. Compact truck beds are generally about 5 ft (1.5 m) long and full-size beds are generally 6.5 ft (2.0 m). These beds offer significant load-hauling versatility, but are not long enough to be difficult to drive or park.

Standard Long bed

The standard **long bed** is usually a foot or two longer than the standard short bed and is more popular on trucks of primarily utilitarian employ (for example, commercial work trucks or farm trucks). Compact long beds are generally 7 ft (2.1 m) long and full-size long beds are generally 8 ft (2.4 m) long. Full-size long beds offer the advantage of carrying a standard-size 4 ft×8 ft sheet of plywood, drywall or other material typically produced in that size, with the tailgate closed. Full size long bed trucks also have the advantage of being the standard vehicle to haul a truck camper. In the United States and Canada, long beds are not very popular on compact trucks because of the easy availability of full-size pickup trucks.

Extra Short bed

There is often confusion when using the term short bed. Usually it refers to a standard short bed, however, some manufacturers, when referring to their 4-door trucks, offer both a standard short bed (about 6.5 ft) as well as an extra-short bed, or super short bed (about 5.5 ft). The manufacturer may refer to the 5.5 ft bed as a short bed and the 6.5 ft bed as a long bed. It is particularly when ordering a truck rack for a truck with 4-door trucks to clarify the actual measured length of the bed.

Manufacturers of compact four-door pickup trucks now also offer **Short beds** or **super short beds** which may be less than 5 feet long. They are sometimes based on sport utility vehicles, with the bed either attached behind the cab such as the [Ford Explorer Sport Trac](#) or built into an integrated assembly such as the [Chevrolet Avalanche](#). Early very short bed trucks had only a regular cab.