

June, 2005 Feature Vehicle
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Member #167
80 El Camino

The Great Pretender

The title credit goes to “The Platters” for their immortal song, but is also applicable to the vehicle in this article. After restoring factory correct vehicles for so many years it was time to build something different. You can call it a resto-mod, restification or as I prefer “a what if”. The “what if” is - had the Musclecar era not ended in the early 70’s what might an 80’s SS 396 El Camino have looked like?

The pictures pretty much tell the story but here are a few of the details.

Specifications

Engine

- 1970 Impala 402-330 Hp
- Turbo 350 Automatic
- 2.73 Posi rear end
- Edelbrock intake and carburetor
- GM HEI ignition
- 1970 Cowl induction air cleaner, valve covers, exhaust manifolds
- Reproduction, maintenance free, R59 battery
- Factory type dual exhaust
- Power steering and brakes
- 4 core radiator

Suspension

- Stock F41 suspension
- KYB gas shocks
- Upgraded front disc brakes-SSBC 2 piston calipers with slotted rotors

Interior

- Bench seat with column shift automatic
- Digital dash panel
- Secret Audio sound system, concealed sunvisor mounted control unit with a 10 disc changer in the smugglers compartment
- Tilt wheel, power windows and door locks

Exterior

- Steel Cowl Induction hood
- SS396 wheels-15X7
- BF Goodrich T/A radials-225/70 front, 275/60 rear
- Grill, fender, cowl induction and tailgate emblems from the 1970 model year.
- HID Headlights



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