

1966 Ford M151-A1

The M151-A1 Military Utility Tactical Truck, or MUTT, was developed by Ford after they were awarded a defense contract to design a vehicle to replace the M38 Jeep in 1951. The M151-A1 was introduced in 1964 and replaced the earlier M151 model. While the Jeep was built on a separate frame with solid axles, the MUTT was a unibody construction with independent suspension. This made the vehicle considerably lighter and more comfortable, and the lack of a frame raised ground clearance while at the same time lowering the center of gravity. This M151 first saw service in the Vietnam and was used by the U.S. military into the '80s. This MUTT was formerly a part of the 140 vehicle Ron Pratte Collection, and was used as a private vehicle in California and Arizona. A full restoration was completed on the vehicle in 2022.

This MUTT is powered by a 142ci inline four-cylinder engine mated to a 4-speed manual transmission and a single-speed transfer case. Equipment includes a full complement of Vietnam-era military equipment, including a decommissioned M1919A4 Browning 30 caliber machine gun and ammo belt, fold down windshield, matching green new canvas upholstery front and back, a removable rear bench seat, body-color metal dash and painted floors, driver side mirror, front tow anchors, rear bumperettes, a rear-mounted jerry can, side-mounted axe and shovel, 16" steel wheels with anchor loop wheel tie-downs, new tires 6.00-16" (May 2024), spare tire, rear pintle hitch, and a rear-mounted flag holder.

The truck is equipped with a 24-volt electrical system, and driver controls include a master lighting control panel, headlamp dimmer floor switch, a hand throttle, choke lever, a floor-mounted shifter, instructional placards, and a transfer-case lever. A three-spoke steering wheel sits ahead of center-mounted instrumentation including a 60-mph speedometer and gauges for oil pressure, fuel level, generator output, and coolant temperature. The five-digit odometer shows 4,600 miles, approximately 100 of which were added during current ownership. Total mileage is unknown.

The 142ci inline-four is equipped with electronic ignition, braided spark plug wires, and a black air cleaner housing. The carburetor was rebuilt in September 2023, with choke and throttle cables that work perfectly and assist with cold morning starts. All lights are fully functional, including headlights, parking lights, brake and blackout lights.

The 1966 MUTT also comes with an accompanying M-416 trailer that has been painted to match the truck. It features a fold-down tailgate, brake lights, black-out lights, and side markers. The single-axle is equipped with green 16" steel wheels mounted with 7.00-16 Cooper Cross Country military tires. The trailer wheel bearings were replaced in 2023.

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