Jerry Maddock turned his Chevy S-10 pickup into a mini dump truck equipped with a rollaway dump bed.

There wasn't room under the pickup bed to mount a hoist and hydraulic pump, so he built a unit that slides into the S-10 box.

Rollaway Dump Bed Installs When Needed

Jerry Maddock turned his Chevy S-10 pickup into a mini-dump truck with a rollaway dump bed. When not needed, he just rolls it off the S-10 and onto a wheeled cart for storage.

"Sometimes I need a little sand or gravel to mix up a small batch of concrete," says Maddock. "I have a heart condition and don't want to shovel too much."

Maddock had junked out an old GM truck with a hoist, but kept the hoist and hydraulic pump. He thought about putting it on a trailer, but didn't want to deal with backing it up.

"The S-10 didn't have room under the bed to mount it," says Maddock. "So I built a unit that just slides into the S-10 box."

That meant keeping the profile as low as possible. Maddock used BobCAD CNC software to place the pump and hoist in the S-10 box digitally and then designed the frame around it.

Using home sawn lumber, he made a double wall subframe to spread the weight across the entire pickup box. An upper frame supports the floor and sides of the dump box, which extends beyond the bumper.

"I didn't want to have to clean the bumper off every time I dumped," says Maddock. "The width and length of the dump bed was designed to match the S-10 box, even to the ribs in the floor. It just barely fits inside the wheel wells."

The lower frame that houses the hoist and pump was made from 1 5/8-in. by 4 1/4-in. boards. The upper frame is 1 5/8-in. by 3 1/2-in. boards. The sideboards of the dump box are 3/4 in. by 7 1/4 in.

"I used cutouts in the subframe and used a planer to size the wood exactly to provide minimal clearance for the hoist," says Maddock. "I wanted to keep the profile as low as I could."

In key spots where additional support was needed, Maddock used flat steel as well as 1/4 in. thick, 3-in. angle iron. The angle iron was used to frame the wood at lift points and at the pivot. Fabrication included mounts for the hydraulic hoist as well as for the rear pivot point.

"About the only thing I bought were the bolts and nuts and 4 come-alongs," says Maddock. "Everything else was designed on the BobCAD and cut out with a plasma cutter. If there were multiple pieces, like on the rear pivot, I made a template first."

The come-alongs are mounted at the corners of the pickup box and designed to hold the subframe down and in place. Blocks of wood drop into place to either side of the subframe front and back to keep the dump box from moving side to side.

"Between the come-alongs and the blocks, I can hit a bump with the truck and not even know it's there," says Maddock. "It doesn't move."

Maddock added 4 retractable wheels to roll the box in and out. These too were fabricated in his shop. The wheels are on a hinged plate. A threaded rod at the end of the plate opposite the pivot pushes the wheels down or pulls them up.

"When pushed down, the wheels ride between ribs on the pickup box bed, says Maddock. "This ensures the dump box bed rolls straight in and straight out. I matched the ribs on the storage cart."

The pump for the hoist is electric. Maddock installed a main power line for the pump. He ran a smaller wire from the pump's controls to a toggle switch on the dash. Both have quick connects.

"It only takes a few minutes to remove the dump box bed," says Maddock. "I disconnect the wires and the come-alongs, pick up the wood blocks, lower the wheels and slide it out."

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Double wall subframe spreads the weight across the entire pickup box. The upper frame supports the floor and sides of the dump box, which extends beyond the bumper.

Lower frame supports the hydraulic hoist and has brackets for the rear pivot point. Four retractable wheels are used to roll the box in and out.

Sprenger added a plexiglass window to each side of his combine grain tank.

Grain Tank Window

Charles Sprenger can check his combine's grain hopper fast, thanks to the plexiglass windows he added. Sprenger uses his combine on contoured fields of oats and corn. On his steep hills, grain can quickly spill over the side of a hopper if not watched. With an opening to either side, he just turns in his seat for a quick view.

"Adding the windows was easy," says Sprenger. "I just cut out the holes, one to either side of the cab, and bolted plexiglass plates in place."

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George Klose levels his driveway with 2 big tractor tires, running cables through the tires and over the top.

Old Tires Make Great Road Drag

"Tractor tires make a great road drag," says George Klose, who levels his driveway with 2 big tires. "The important thing to keep in mind is to run the cables through the tires and over the top. You don't want the cables dragging in the gravel as they will leave ridges."

Klose drilled a hole through the center of each tire and pulled the holes into contact with each other. He then passed steel cable through the holes and over the top twice before clamping the cables together. He then drilled holes a quarter way around each tire in the direction to be pulled. He passed a cable through each hole twice before clamping them off to make loops.

"I ran a long log chain from my skid steer back through the loops and back to the skid steer," says Klose. "It works great and is a good way to get a little more use out of old tractor tires."

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