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The World's Biggest Truck

The world's biggest truck isn't a Ford F-450 Crew Cab pickup truck, or even a Mack truck with a double trailer. The biggest trucks in the world are used in mining, and perhaps calling them big is an understatement - these trucks are truly enormous.



The giant dump trucks used to haul heavy metal ores out of mining pits weigh in the neighborhood of one million pounds and can carry and dump more than 300 tons of material in the back. Where a Honda Fit has 117 horsepower and a Jaguar XF has 300 horsepower, these mining trucks have about 3,000 horsepower available for moving all that mass.

Mining trucks stand more than 20 feet tall. The driver could climb from his cab into an open window on the second floor of an average building. And they're nearly fifty feet long, too, about the same length as an adult humpback whale.

But there's more than one manufacturer building these monsters, and the trucks are relatively close in size, so this is going to be a numbers game to determine which one is truly the largest.

The World's Largest Truck: Terex MT 6300AC

The MT 6300AC was only recently introduced at the 2008 MinEXPO, an annual event for the mining industry. The truck had been tested in the tar sands in Canada, and a few are currently being used in mining operations in Australia. It's the only truck purpose-built to haul 400 tons. The other trucks, according to Bazinet, are upscaled versions of trucks designed to carry 200 to 300 tons.

It should come as no surprise, then, that Terex also makes the biggest excavator, another machine purpose-built for mining. "It can lift 100 tons in one bucket," said Bazinet. "It can fill the MT 6300AC in four passes." Both of these machines are used for mining tar sands in Canada, and for that reason, the MT 6300AC can be equipped with a heated bed to keep the sticky stuff from congealing in the Canadian chill.

Want one of the biggest trucks in the world for yourself? You'd better start saving up. Trucks like these cost millions of dollars. In fact, depending on the options you choose, the MT 6300AC costs "\$4 to \$5 million dollars per copy