

# CHEVROLET—CENTRAL OFFICE

DIVISION OF GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION  
DETROIT 2, MICHIGAN



## TECHNICAL SERVICE BULLETIN

Service and Mechanical Department



SUBJECT: 1953 PASSENGER CAR AND TRUCK  
TRANSMISSION SERIAL NUMBER IDENTIFICATION

BULLETIN No. TSB #276  
SECTION (Refer to TSB #249)  
XV

TO: ALL CHEVROLET SERVICE PERSONNEL

July 7, 1953

Effective July 1, 1953, at all Transmission Plants the method of numbering 1953 transmission assemblies will change. Transmission numbers after that date will consist of first a prefix letter indicating the source followed by three or four numerals indicating the month and day of manufacture.

### TRANSMISSION SERIAL PREFIX LETTERS

<u>Prefix</u>	<u>Plant</u>	<u>Transmission Type</u>
C	Cleveland	Powerglide
M	Muncie	3-Speed (Passenger & Commercial)
S	Saginaw	3-Speed Passenger
T	Toledo	4-Speed Truck

One or two numerals designating the month using "1" for January, "2" for February, etc., "10" for October, "11" for November and "12" for December will be stamped immediately following the letter prefix.

Two numerals designating the production date of the month using "01" for the first day of the month, "02" for the second, etc., will follow the numeral or numerals designating the month.

### EXAMPLE

A transmission built July 1 at Toledo would bear serial number T701.

A transmission built November 12 at Muncie would bear serial number M1112.

  
Service and Mechanical Department

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# CHEVROLET—CENTRAL OFFICE

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## TECHNICAL SERVICE BULLETIN

Service and Mechanical Department



SUBJECT: 1953 PASSENGER CAR AND TRUCK -  
BODY, CHASSIS, ENGINE, TRANS-  
MISSION AND REAR AXLE SERIAL  
NUMBER IDENTIFICATION

BULLETIN No. TSB #249

SECTION XV

TO: ALL CHEVROLET SERVICE PERSONNEL

January 2, 1953

### PASSENGER CAR AND TRUCK SERIAL NUMBERS - 1953

#### PASSENGER CAR

<u>SERIES</u>	<u>SERIES PREFIX</u>	<u>MODEL</u>	<u>WHEELBASE</u>
*1500	A	"150" Passenger	115"
2100	B	"210" Passenger	115"
2400	C	"Bel Air" Passenger	115"

\* All 1500 Series except 1508 Sedan Delivery.

#### TRUCK

1508	D	Sedan Delivery	115"
3100	H	1/2 Ton - Comm.	116"
3600	J	3/4 Ton - Comm.	125-1/4"
3700	K	3/4 Ton - Forward Control	125"
3800	L	1 Ton - Comm.	137"
3900	M	1 Ton - Forward Control	137"
4100	N	1-1/2 Ton	137"
4400	P	1-1/2 Ton	161"
4500	R	1-1/2 Ton - School Bus Chassis	161"
5100	S	2 Ton - C.O.E.	110"
5400	T	2 Ton - C.O.E.	134"
5700	U	2 Ton - C.O.E.	158"
6100	V	2 Ton	137"
6400	W	2 Ton	161"
6500	X	2 Ton	179"
6700	Y	2 Ton - School Bus Chassis	199"
6800	Z	2 Ton - School Bus Chassis	212"
5100S	SS	1-1/2 Ton C.O.E. Special	110"
5400S	ST	1-1/2 Ton C.O.E. Special	134"
5700S	SU	1-1/2 Ton C.O.E. Special	158"
6100S	SV	1-1/2 Ton Special	137"
6400S	SW	1-1/2 Ton Special	161"
6500S	SX	1-1/2 Ton Special	179"

Serial numbers of all Passenger Cars will be continuous starting with 001001 at each assembly plant. Likewise, the serial numbers of all trucks will be continuous starting with 001001 at each assembly plant.

**Assembly Plant Designations:**

"A" Atlanta	"J" Janesville	"N" Norwood
"B" Baltimore	"K" Kansas City	"O" Oakland
"F" Flint	"L" Los Angeles	"S" St. Louis
		"T" Tarrytown

**Examples:**

Serial # B53F 001025

(B)	(53)	(F)	(001025)
2100 Series Passenger	Year 1953	Flint Assy. Plant	25th Passenger Car built at Flint

Serial # V53K 001083

(V)	(53)	(K)	(001083)
6100 Series Truck	Year 1953	Kansas City Assy. Plt.	83rd Truck built at Kansas City

The passenger car serial number plate is now located on the left front body hinge pillar above the upper door hinge.

The truck serial number is located on the left front body hinge pillar, except on models with cowl less windshield where the serial plate is located on the left hand cowl side inner panel except forward control chassis serial number plates installed by body builder.

PASSENGER CAR BODY STYLE DESIGNATIONS - 1953

<u>BODY STYLE</u>	<u>SERIES</u>			<u>FISHER BODY STYLE #</u>		
	<u>1500</u>	<u>2100</u>	<u>2400</u>	<u>1500</u>	<u>2100</u>	<u>2400</u>
2-Door Sedan	1502	2102	2402	53-1211	53-1011W	53-1011W
4-Door Sedan	1503	2103	2403	53-1269	53-1069W	53-1069W
Business Coupe	1504			53-1227B		
Station Wagon (6 Passenger)	1509	2109		53-1262F	53-1062F	
Station Wagon (8 Passenger)		2119			53-1062	
Club Coupe	1524	2124		53-1227	53-1027	
Convertible		2134	2434	53-1067TX		53-1067T
Sport Coupe (Hard Top)		2154	2454		53-1037	53-1037T

SEDAN DELIVERY BODY STYLE DESIGNATIONS - 1953

Sedan Delivery	1508 Series	53-1271 Body Style #.
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## FISHER BODY PREFIXES

Following are the prefixes to the 1953 Fisher Body numbers which identify the Fisher Plant at which the body was produced. Each style of body is numbered in sequence starting with "1" at each Fisher Plant.

F - Flint	N - Norwood
T - Tarrytown	K - Kansas City
S - St. Louis (also Bel Air)	M - Baltimore
O - Oakland	AG - Atlanta
J - Janesville (also Bel Air)	L - Lansing (Cabriolet & Bel Air)
VN - Los Angeles	CL - Cleveland (Station Wagon & Sedan Delivery)

Body numbers and prefixes are stamped on a plate located on the hood ledge on the right side of the cowl along with the body style number, trim number and paint number.

## ENGINE SERIAL PREFIX AND NUMBERS

### PASSENGER

<u>SERIES</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>MODEL YEAR</u>	<u>***TYPE</u>	<u>FLINT</u>	<u>TONAWANDA</u>
*15-21-2400	Regular "235"	L	A	A	M
*15-21-2400	Regular "235"	L	A	C	P
2100-2400	with 10-3/4 Disc. R.P.O. "235" with Powerglide.	L	A		Q
15-21-2400	Regular "235" with Power Steering.	L	A	E	R
2100-2400	R.P.O. "235" with Powerglide and Power Steering.	L	A		S
*15-21-2400	Regular "235" Aluminum Timing - Gears R.P.O.	L	A	F	

\*Except 1508

### TRUCK

1508	"216"	L	A	G	T
1508	"216" with 10-3/4 Disc.	L	A	J	V
3100	"216"	L	B	A	M
*36-3800 (3100 R.P.O.)	"216" with 10-3/4 Disc.	L	C	C	P
3802	"216" Positive Crankcase Vent.	L	C	H	U
4000	"216"	L	C	A	M
3742-3942	"235"	L	C	F	S
4000	"216" R.P.O. Hydrovac & Positive Crankcase Vent.	L	C	D	Q
5000	"235" C.O.E.	L	D	A	M
6000	"235" Truck	L	E	A	M

\*\* (4000 R.P.O.)

\* "A" will precede prefix if motor is used on 3800 Series, and  
"B" if R.P.O. on 3100 Series.

\*\* An "A" will precede prefix if "235" engine is used on 4000 Series (R.P.O.).

\*\*\* Refers to the type engine used in the chassis of the various series for

All engines are to be numbered at each source in sequence starting with 1001.

EXAMPLE:

The 50th 3100 series regular 216 cu. in. engine built at Flint would bear the serial number LBA-1050 - if built at Tonawanda LBM-1050.

TRANSMISSION SERIAL PREFIX AND NUMBERS

<u>SERIES</u>	<u>PRODUCTION</u>	<u>MODEL SOURCE DESIGNATION;</u>				
		<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SAGINAW</u>	<u>MUNCIE</u>	<u>TOLEDO</u>	<u>CLEVELAND</u>
1500-2100-2400	Regular	L	A	B	C	
1500-2100-2400	R.P.O.**	L	G	H	J	
2100-2400	R.P.O.*** (Powerglide Trans.)	L				T
3100	3-Speed	L	N	O	P	
3600-3742	3-Speed	L	Q	R	S	
3100-3600-3742	R.P.O. 4-Speed	W	K	L	M	
3800-3942	4-Speed	W	D	E	F	
4000-6000 R.P.O. 3802-12 3900	4-Speed	W	N	O	P	
5000	4-Speed	W	Q	R	S	

*Set SB-276*

\* Correct ratio speedometer gears are furnished in transmission to accommodate rear axle ratio listed.

NOTE: Speedometer gears are furnished in all truck transmissions to accommodate the rear axle ratio and tire sizes. Speedometer adapters are furnished where necessary.

\*\* Roller bearing countershaft gear. (Taxicab option).

\*\*\* On Powerglide Transmissions a letter and numeral following the serial number indicates date transmission was built ("A" represents January, B - February, etc. 1 represents the 1st day of the month, 2 - second day, etc.) "D" and "N" designating day or night shift is shown directly after day of month.

Each type of transmission, that is, those used on 1500, 2100 and 2400 (3-Speed Passenger), 2100 and 2400 (Powerglide), 3100 and 3600 (3-speed commercial) and 3800-4000-5000 and 6000 series plus 3100-3600 and 3700 R.P.O. (4-speed) are numbered in sequence starting with 1001 at each source.

EXAMPLE: LA-1010 would indicate the tenth 1953 standard 3-speed passenger car transmission built at the Saginaw plant.

REAR AXLE SERIAL PREFIX AND NUMBERS

<u>SERIES</u>	<u>GEAR RATIO</u>	<u>SOURCE DESIGNATION:</u>		
		<u>MODEL YEAR</u>	<u>GEAR &amp; AXLE</u>	<u>BUFFALO</u>
1500-2100-2400 except 1508	3.70:1	L	L	M
2100	R.P.O. (Powerglide Transmission 3.55:1)	L	S	T
1508	4.11:1	L	A	B
3100	4.11:1	L	U	V
3600	4.57:1	L	G	H
3742 3600 R.P.O.	5.14:1	L	Q	R
3800	5.14:1	W	J	K
3800 R.P.O.*	5.14:1	W	Q	R
3942	5.14:1	W	C	D
3942 R.P.O.**	5.14:1	W	A	B
4000	6.17:1	W	L	M
4000	R.P.O. 5.43:1	W	E	F
5000-6000	6.17:1	W	G	H
5000-6000	2-Speed Hypoid R.P.O. 6.13:1 and 8.10:1	W	N	P

\* Dual wheels R.P.O. equipment on 3802-3-8-12.

\*\* Dual wheels R.P.O. equipment on 3942.

Each serial number will consist of three or four numbers with the first one or two numbers indicating the month unit was manufactured and the last two numbers indicate the day.

EXAMPLE:

A 5.43:1 ratio axle built at Gear & Axle on April 9th is numbered WE-409. The "4" designates April and the "09" designates the 9th day. If built at Buffalo, it would read WF-409. If made on October 12th, it would read WF-1012.

Refer to the current Shop Manual for location of the engine and transmission serial numbers.