

AV**ALANCHE **ZONE

WINTER 2011

BY JAV

***CHEVY AV**ALANCHE FAN CLUB OF NORTH AMERICA*

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ChevyAvalancheFanClub.com

FEATURE MEMBER

Love This Avalanche!

by Z66 Butch

I bought my first Avalanche, a 2002 Z66 in November of 2001. It was loaded but of course there was more that I wanted so I did a lot of modding, most of it with help of my Avalanche friends at CAFCNA. I made Teak running boards, a Teak rack over the bed and many other Teak accessories. I had it lowered and added purple pearl flames. I drove that Avalanche until February of 2011. We had spotted this 2007 Avalanche on a local new car dealers front lot and liked it. One day I decided to drive up and take a better look at it, assuming that it would not be equipped like I wanted....

...it was and I traded Avalanche that day after a test drive.

The newer platform Avalanche seem to ride and handle better and the brakes are definitely an improvement.....but of course what really caught my eye was that fabulous flamed paint job! I heard that the previous owner had a Harley and this Avalanche painted to match and a member here sent me a photo of it in a car show. I have no idea what a paint job like this would have cost but I do know what I paid for the custom paint on my 2002 Avalanche and this one is much more involved.

So far I have not done a lot of modding to this Avalanche, I did have it lowered 2" in the front and 3" in the rear. I built a custom beach umbrella holder for the trailer hitch (very handy at GTG's) and a couple of other small mods. I would love to get some custom interior work done but that will be next year at the earliest.

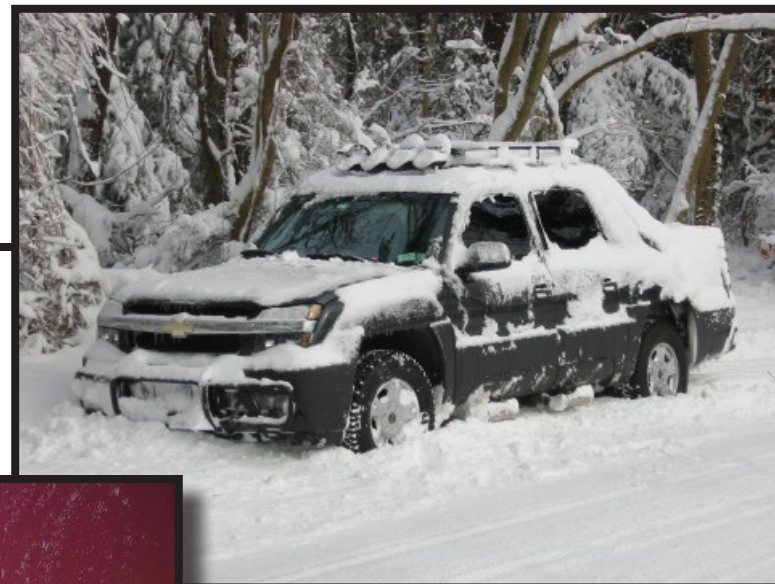


FEATURE FORUM

Avalanches in the Snow!

by platinum5.9

Submitted by cadboy1



Submitted by dubyalanche



Submitted by jb666

READER RIDES

Photo Competition

by Spork_Driver

"Your Avalanche in a Beautiful Place"
Submitted by Trey



"Let's See Your Backside"
Submitted by Chevzilla AV

"Your Avalanche in Black & White"
Submitted by EarthQuake



TETigers53



HIM8NINS



AV ADVENTURES

Let me tell you about my dream...

by ms38w

I had a dream last night...about my Avalanche. I'm sure you've all had one of those dreams where all goes wrong and some disaster separates you from your Avalanche. It went something like this...

I parked my Avalanche at the local Kroger to do a little grocery shopping. The store was packed and I had to park in an "other-than-sanctioned" parking spot. When I returned, it was gone! After a day or so, I located it at an impound yard. It was up on a rack like the kind you see at a marina, when they store mid-sized boats for the winter, one on top of the other. I asked the impound yard owner what was going on, and he told me of some fine I had to pay, plus storage fees. I couldn't afford to get it back just yet...payday was several days away, but the storage fee increased daily. I came back every day to check on the Avalanche to be sure they didn't damage it in any way. One night, long after closing time, I went to check on it, and there were people there...moving vehicles around to make room for the next one, etc., and I couldn't find my Avalanche. I let myself in and managed to talk to one of the guys who helped me look for it. As morning rolled around and we couldn't locate it, he directed me to the boss, who told me it had been crushed! He pointed up at the ceiling where it was hanging in it's cube-form. As I began to argue with him, I was escorted out of

the building. Out front, I see my Avalanche...what was left of it. It was in the process of being sold! I said "that's my truck!". It was in sad shape. It had been raped! The wheels had been sold off and replaced with basic GM stamped steel rims and stock tires, some of the cladding and 2 bed panels were missing. A headlight was gone, etc., you get the idea. The guys buying it appeared to be a father (about

55) and son (about 30) in the construction business. The son went inside to finalize the sale as the father looked over the truck. I approached the father and told him about the mod's I had done to it. He didn't seem totally sold on the truck, but his son was pushing for it. I hoped to convince him he didn't need this truck! I said "this isn't a contractors truck that you just throw a couple 2x4's and a bag of concrete in the back and

look like you're someone important on the job site... this thing was built to do some serious towing/hauling!" I told him it would be like taking a race car to get groceries. He seemed to understand that, and said he couldn't buy it, and headed inside to put a stop to the deal. When he and his son left, I approached the impound yard boss to try and get my truck back. He said he would sell it to me. I agreed, but had to get the money from the bank and would be back the next day. He told me it would cost me more if I waited another day, and I agreed to any price. At a price of \$28,500, it was a bit much for a raped 2002 truck, but I knew the mods alone were worth twice that. Later that night, I snuck back into their impound yard to keep an eye on my Avalanche, and one of the guys gave me the key to it. I drove off, with the motor sputtering and burping...for some reason going in reverse down the road (hey, this is a dream, remember?). The impound yard had replaced (and likely sold) the electronic transfer case and installed a manual one with the lever on the floor in the center hump. My manual transmission was somehow effected by this, and I couldn't stop the truck from

going faster and faster in reverse. I tried putting it in 1st gear, but it kept speeding up, 2nd gear, the same thing. I fiddled with the manual transfer case lever, some Jerry-rigged contraption, and finally got the thing to go forward. It smoked, belched and farted up the road, with my wife in the seat next to me, complaining about my truck...as usual! I had some serious repairs ahead of me.

"It smoked, belched and farted up the road, with my wife in the seat next to me, complaining about my truck... as usual!"

I woke up in a state of shear panic!



AVALANCHE ZONE



MOD MANIA

12 Mods of Christmas

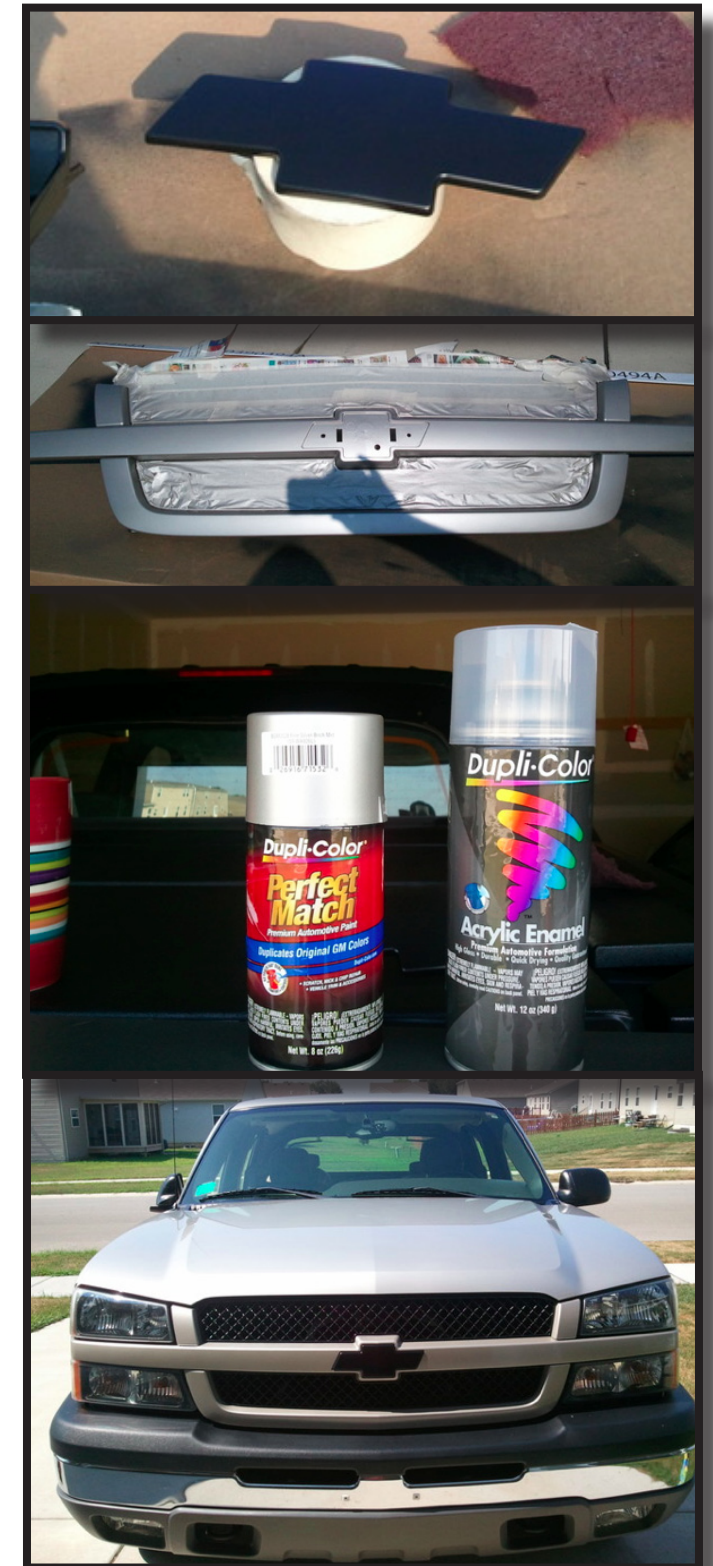
by BCMountaineer, Joelg1980, J_AV

As a tribute to the 12 days of Christmas, we've compiled a list of 12 easy modifications that can be done for less than \$50. These can be done in a matter of hours, and some in a matter of minutes.

1. Painted grill (\$12)
2. Krylon Fusion on sails and bed covers (\$24)
3. Painted lower fascia black (free from leftover sail job)
4. Steps; took about 10 mins per side (\$30/side)
5. Headrest Mod (free)
6. Amber DRL's (\$6)
7. Bumper or Tailgate cupholders (\$10)
8. Tailgate torsion bar (\$20)
9. 3rd brake light decal (\$16)
10. All-On-High (\$5)
11. Painted bowtie (\$12)
12. DIY Smoked tail lights (\$45)

Modding Stock Bumper

by Joelg1980





Drain/Fill Front Differential

by BCMountaineer

How to drain and fill the front differential on a 2004 Avalanche 1500:

1. Remove skid plate if equipped. The factory skid plate has 4 bolts to remove.
2. Place a container underneath the front differential and remove the drain plug(green circle). Clean the end of the drain plug of all metallic filings.
3. Remove the fill plug(yellow circle).
4. Reinstall the drain plug with a torque wrench to 24 ft-lbs.
5. Pour your new 80w90 GL5 gear oil in. This may be a little challenging due to the thickness and angle at which you have to pour it in. I used a funnel with a small hose on the end to make things easier.
6. The fluid is fulll when it is about 5/8" to 1 5/8" below the bottom of the fill plug.
7. Reinstall the fill plug with a torque wrench to 24 ft-lbs.
8. Reinstall skid plate if equipped.

Remember to dispose of the used oil in an enviromentall friendly way.



Refinish/Restorer Suppliers

by arizona-dave

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Administrative Assistant / Adjointe Administrative
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\$50.28/can

Seafoam

by Shanes 02 Avalanche

I know this has been talked about before, but I could not find the thread. I just seafoamed my Av after 30k miles. i used about 12Oz's of Seafoam. My Av was not happy having it forced into her manifold. She smoked and idled funny while i was doing this. Kinda like forsing cough medicine down your kids throat. Afterwards she smoked for about 5 minutes, but dam she runs so much better. I figured the more she smoked the more crap she was bunnring off. She is not smoking anymore and has a lot more get up an go. I really need to remember to do this more often.

If you have not done this I highly recommend it. Just disconnect the Vacuuming tube that connects to the Master brake cylinder. Use a funnel that fits in the hose. Keep the truck running, it will have a hard time keeping idle, so pour the Seafoam in very slowly. Don't do to much at once or it will stall the engine. Smoke will start coming out of the tailpipe immediately, don't worry it is just the carbon on the valves burning off. After you are done, just plug the hose back into its home and you are done. I recommend driving around a little to get the rest of the carbon smoke out.

This is one of those things you would do after cleaning your MAF and filter. Hope this is helpful.



Fun & Games

by J_AV

Word List

CHEVROLET
AVALANCHE
CAFCNA
AMBERS
LIFTED
MODDING
CLADDING
SAILPANEL

ALLONHIGH
DRL
BOWTIE
PERFORMANCE
POWERBAR
BEDSLIDE
CHROME

Avalanche Zone

D	E	C	N	A	M	R	O	F	R	E	P	I	V	Y	L	H	W	N	X
K	C	H	R	O	M	E	W	D	Q	R	S	R	U	K	Q	W	A	A	I
N	F	X	R	U	V	S	L	E	N	A	P	L	I	A	S	S	Z	B	W
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G	N	N	I	C	B	G	E	F	P	R	U	K	F	F	J	U	C	D	W
H	A	M	B	E	R	S	V	I	K	E	N	H	Z	Y	G	N	W	S	E
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S	K	O	O	Z	E	Q	P	S	R	O	M	J	I	W	D	K	N	I	O
B	D	C	F	R	L	H	R	G	W	P	D	P	V	L	S	Y	A	D	T
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B	C	E	Q	A	A	H	H	P	Z	L	J	E	T	M	M	W	T	O	K
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U	B	V	U	T	C	R	X	Z	R	A	F	Y	H	W	R	D	N	M	E

HELP

Avalanche Zone Contribution

I am continually searching for volunteers to help me put together the Avalanche Zone magazine every quarter. If we want to continue to publish this magazine for the community, I need your help in the form of ideas and article submissions. Get in touch with me by PM or through the magazine message boards to see how you can contribute. Whether it's a 3 page article or a short "how to" writeup, lets see what you can do!

Thanks,
J_AV

Become a Supporting Member

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