

## Toyota Tacoma on Consumer Affairs

Contributed by Administrator  
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The Tacoma is putting a big dent in American automakers' truck sales but it's also putting a big ugly dent in Toyota's reputation for quality, reliability and service. The trucks are plagued by engine and transmission problems as well as an assortment of defects and quirks that we don't usually associate with Japanese cars and trucks. Some of the comments from Toyota clients: " Upon completion of the inspection of my pick-up, I was informed that the frame not only failed, but was patched. I asked the 1st service tech how this was missed upon receipt of this vehicle, and how could it be sold. He told me they had no reason to perform such an intense inspection prior to resale. I asked him about the Toyota Quality Reputation. He didn't have an answer for me, and neither did the tech that performed the inspection. " Intense inspection??? You don't need an intense inspection to check if the frame is rotted out Mr. Toyota.

" bought my truck with 49500 miles in 2003 and it lasted me 85000 before it was unsafe to drive(the problems were reported in early 2005 and continue today). Toyota will not work with me and basically told me to eat as they have offered me less than 1000 for any reconciliation. " " The mechanic called ask us to come back to the garage to have a look up under the truck. He had the truck upon the racks and what I seen about gave me heart failure!! The frame was an absolute mess! Totally rusted!! The thought that my baby had been riding this death trap around scared me to death. What if him being a young boy had decided to take it 4 wheeling the thing would have probably fell apart and flipped him down a mountain maybe even killing him. The mechanic advised us to return the parts and get rid of the truck which we did. Now thanks to us purchasing (what we now know was) a piece of junk that we thought would be great to get our child through school was a waste now he has a car payment. Makes us mad to pass these old junkers on the road and you wonder how their vehicle is still running and our truck that was in excellent LOOKING condition was about to get one of us killed. " "We experienced the frame rot with our 1998 Toyota Tacoma problem that people are complaining about. The mechanic said we had probably the best-maintained Tacoma in upstate NY, but it wouldn't pass NY state inspection because the frame is Swiss cheese. Too dangerous to be driving. Makes me cringe to think about driving our daughter around." The frame of my '98 Toyota Tacoma has corroded to the point that its unsafe to drive.The frame actually broke going over a speed bump in the local Wal - Mart parking lot.Since then its been parked in my driveway.

I purchased my Tacoma. Atoyfter numerous complains and trips to the dealer they could not duplicate the issue. At about 900 miles the engine started to make a tick sound on the right side of the vehicle. About 9000 miles I had the first signs of stalling, sputtering and surging. To make a long story short 20,000 miles after purchase my engine blows a rod from the number 6 cylinder which is on the right side. Seems I have a lemon. I was then denied assistance under warranty. I had all my services done at the dealer, Oil changes were done before the recommended 5000 mile mark, I kept all my records and I am still blamed for the improper care of the truck. I purchased Toyota because of the legendary reliability. I have yet to have this experience with my first and possibly last Toyota truck.

I bought my '98 Toyota Tacoma new in the fall of '97. I've taken good care of it ( routine maint. ) . Last week I heard a loud thump as I went over a speed bump . I got home and discovered the frame had rusted through in several places . And an actual crack under the cab just below the cab and bed .

I have had nothing but good experience with my truck until the frame literally rusted right out from under the truck in less than a year and a half. It is a 98 tacoma and all the blogs and forums I have been to have had numerous people in the same situation. I thought I would get somewhere calling Toyota but they claimed to be unaware about any complaints or problems. I beleive if they produce a product that costs what it does and they claim that their product is superior to other automakers their frame has to be able to last more than 10 years! Toyota obviously hade a faulty frame design from 96 to 03 so be the honorable company you say you are and offer to fix your mistakes and treat your customers like they mean something.

My 2000 Toyota Tacoma has frame rot. Toyota knows that Tacomas in the NE are rotting due to faulty mfg and harsh winter road conditions. No other manufacturer has trucks failing like the Tacoma.

I recently bought a used '99 Toyota Tacoma because of their legendary reliability. After a few months, the undercoating/paint wore off to reveal that most of the frame was rusting straight through. Most of the frame can be easily penetrated with a screwdriver, and hitting the frame causes showers of rust flakes. One mechanic told me he didn't think it would pass inspection, and another said there was absolutely nothing that I could do. This has definitely changed my mind about Toyota and their products.

1999 toyota tacoma frame broken at rear spring mount toyota said it is no longer under warranty. would not give any assitance

1999 toyota 4x4 not driveable

Later I did a brake job and when putting the truck on jack stands the jack that comes with the truck ended up going right thru the bottom of the frame.

There is no way to repair the frame as rust is everywhere, inside and outside. Other than rust and corrosion I have had no problems with this truck, only scheduled maintenance.

I have a 1999 Toyota Tacoma, 95k miles] and the frame has rusted through so it would not pass inspection till I repaired it. I checked and this is a common problem with this truck for several years. I contacted Down East Toyota, Wilson St. Brewer, Maine and was told by Herb Davis, Service Manager, yes this was a problem they were aware of but there was nothing they could do.

Toyota has since changed their frame set up in an attempt to prevent this. This vehicle has been in for the dealer upkeep, and been garaged kept since new, not abused off road or in any other way, can you check this out and get back with me?

Everything else works on the truck it just doesn't have a reliable frame as it is. more at:  
[http://www.consumeraffairs.com/automotive/toyota\\_tacoma.html](http://www.consumeraffairs.com/automotive/toyota_tacoma.html)