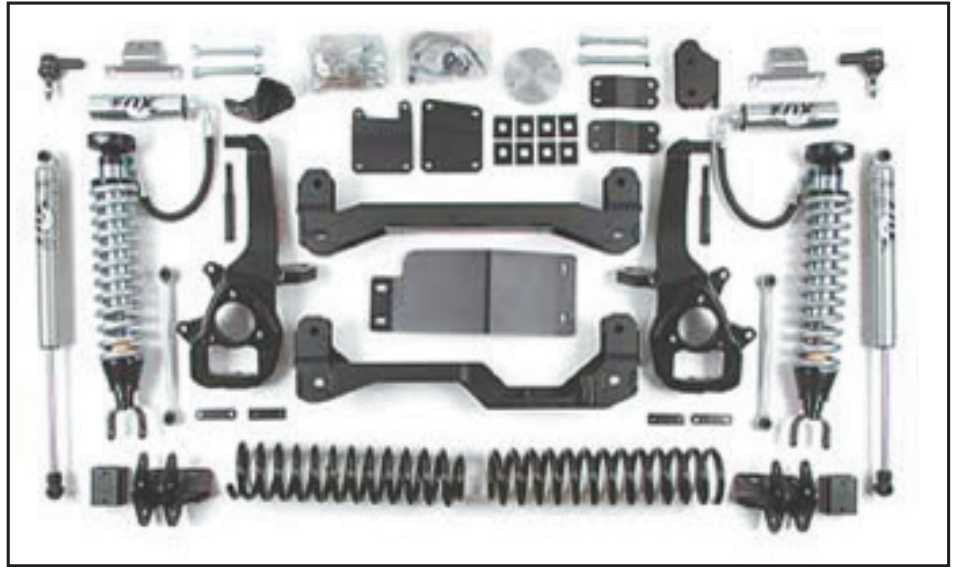


# Premium Suspension Lift Kits For 4-WD's

There are probably a dozen companies waiting to sell you pickup lift kit components, but one we hear a lot about is BDS Suspension. Truck repair specialist Chris Nielsen says his customers modify their vehicles with BDS products for mud racing, hill climbing and other off-road antics. Nielsen says the company has kits for just about any truck made, but two that he's most familiar with are those for Dodge Ram and Ford trucks.

For Dodge Ram trucks, BDS Suspension has teamed with Fox Racing to offer a 6-in. coil-over lift kit that replaces the front strut and uses Fox long-travel coil-over shocks. Fox says their shocks provide more suspension travel to take advantage of the extra height and improve the ride on the road or in rough country. The shocks can be adjusted for stiffness so you can tune the ride to your liking. They also have a remote reservoir that provides extra fluid capacity to dissipate heat. The basic BDS kit has everything except wheels and tires to lift your ride to roll on 35 or 37-in. tires. Do-it-yourselfers can handle the work in about 10 hrs. with the aid of good tools, a sturdy truck lift, and a heated shop. Some torching and metal trimming is required and two people definitely make the job go smoother. BDS suspensions don't work on 2013 model year trucks and newer with self-leveling air suspension.

BDS offers a 4-in. high-clearance lift kit for F-150 Ford Raptor pickups and recently announced IFD and C/O lift systems for



**BDS Suspension offers premium suspension lift kits for just about any truck made.**

new 2016 Ford F-150s. The Raptor kit is engineered to clear 37-in. tires and take full advantage of the Fox bypass rollover front shocks and the rear 2 1/2-in. piggyback reservoir shocks. Its one piece 1/4-in. thick crossmembers reposition the lower A-arms. Ductile-iron steering knuckles reposition front tie-rod mounts and integrate with the A-arms. A 4-in. block and U-bolt kit levels the rear. The kit includes all mounting hardware.

BDS Kits include a "No Fine Print Warranty" and a 5-year, 60,000-mile PLUS

drivetrain warranty. The company also offers suspension kits for Chevy, GMS, Jeep, Geo, Mazda, Suzuki, and Toyota vehicles. Pricing varies and can be found on the company website.

Contact: Farm Show Followup, BDS Suspension, 491 West Garfield Ave., Coldwater, Mich 49036 (ph 517 279-2135; [www.bds-suspension.com](http://www.bds-suspension.com)).

## Redesigned "Mini Loader" For Deere Garden Tractors

"About a year ago I built a mini loader for my Deere 318 garden tractor that was featured in FARM SHOW (Vol. 39, No. 3). It's designed mainly to move snow and lift heavy objects up into my pickup. The response I got – and am still getting – from readers has been incredible," says Steve Nichols, Galesburg, Ill.

"I've enjoyed helping FARM SHOW readers who want to build their own loaders. I have now made an even better loader for my Deere 445. It's designed to fit Deere's 425, 445, and 455 garden tractors and is based on an entirely different design. I call it my ACME Iron Werx Loader. Anyone with good fabricating skills can easily build it. I don't have any plans or blueprints for it, but I'll be happy to answer questions for anyone who's interested.

"My new loader has what I call 'girder' style arms, which are less expensive to build than the boomerang-style arms on

my previous loader. It lifts 54 in. high, which should allow dumping over the side of a pickup or into a utility trailer. The bucket is 48 inches wide. The loader operates off the tractor's standard onboard hydraulic system and doesn't interfere with the tractor's belly-mounted mower deck or the ability to open the tractor's hood.

"I would be happy to help anyone who wants to try his hand at making a loader like mine. Also, I'm willing to sell this loader as I'm already working on yet another design. I intend to make plans available for my next design."



**Steve Nichols built this "new and improved" mini loader that's designed to fit Deere's 425, 445 and 455 garden tractors.**

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Steve Nichols, 1248 N. Seminary St., Galesburg, Ill. 61401 (ph 309 337-7141; [seminarybob@gmail.com](mailto:seminarybob@gmail.com)).