Tilt Chrome Steering Column From Classic Performance Products Along With A 500 Series Power Steering Box.

We wanted to upgrade the stock manual steering on our '56 Chevy SW. The common upgrade was to modify a "605" box to fit the tri-five Chevys. Well there is a better way...

Classic Performance Products has a new steering box to replace the 605 steering boxes that DIY auto enthusiasts have been using for years. Their new 500 Series is a re-circulating ball box that features a one-piece cast housing engineered to provide improved operation and response, as well as a tighter overall feel. We also decided to upgrade the steering Column with CPP's tilt chrome unit. These improvements were easier to do once we removed the engine.

Close up of the new 505 CPP Power Steering Box with the rag joint connector.

The 500 Series steering box from CPP is similar to the GM 605 but features a one-piece housing and 14:1 steering ratio. The new box bolts to the frame in using the factory mounting holes.

Routing the hoses away from heat, friction areas etc.

Locate the power steering hoses away from both heat and friction, so avoid contact with the engine, the brake lines, or upper A-arms. The line on the left is the pressure line; the one on the right is the return line to the pump reservoir. It is critical that the lines are tightened completely to prevent leaking. The steering box itself will not leak.

Pitman arm attached to the Power Steering Box

CPP offers a pump, early small-block mounting bracket and hoses as a separate package or as part of a conversion kit with the steering box. (This is what we elected to go with).

Close up of the new 505 CPP Power Steering Box with the rag joint connector.

The Power Steering Pump bracket is installed in the same location as the early style front motor mount and is designed with a small ear for fastening the motor mount.

Here we have the original Steering Box.

With the engine removed we had clear access to the Power Steering unit

505 Power Steering Box

The CPP 500 is a completely new product built with all new components.

Side view of the Power Steering Pump installed with hoses and belt.
When it comes to mounting the new column, there are a few brackets that hold it in place. Remove the old column and bolt up the new column.

Along the column there are several wires that need to be hooked up. Make sure each wire is hooked up accordingly.

At the top of the column the turn signal and other knobs need to be installed. We needed an adapter to mount our new Custom Steering Wheel.

To improve road handling we installed a front sway bar from Classic Performance Products. The installation was straightforward. Brackets installed on the frame and ends connected to the lower A-frames with sway bar bolts. Easy Peasy...

Front Sway Bar From Classic Performance Products

Installation finished - All we need to do now is take it for a test drive!
CPP's HydraStop™ Hydraulic Assist System

CPP's high-quality direct bolt-in hydraulic assist kit is designed to upgrade manual or vacuum-assisted brakes on your 1973-87 Chevy Truck with a powerful and compact modern hydraulic assist unit. Everything you need is included to install into your classic truck. Most installations can be accomplished in an afternoon, using common hand tools, with average mechanical skill levels. These systems consist of a direct-fit high performance hydraulic brake assist unit (with options for steel firewall mounting bracket); rubber, high pressure line set; heavy-duty power steering return line; pedal rod hardware and mounting hardware. Using all new parts, this unit puts out an amazing 1800psi at the wheels! The “Street Beast” package includes: Hydraulic Assist Unit with steel firewall mounting bracket, cast aluminum master cylinder, rubber pressure and return hoses, all necessary fittings and hardware for installation. Bare units are also available. Retail starts at $809.

Classic Performance Products, Inc. has been providing top quality steering, brake and suspension components for classic Chevy and Ford cars and trucks, as well as street rods, for over two decades. Call 800-760-8541 and order a catalog today, featuring our complete line of parts and accessories.

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