

How to choose a power steering pump for your LS engine

You'll find two basic styles of GM or Saginaw power steering pumps:

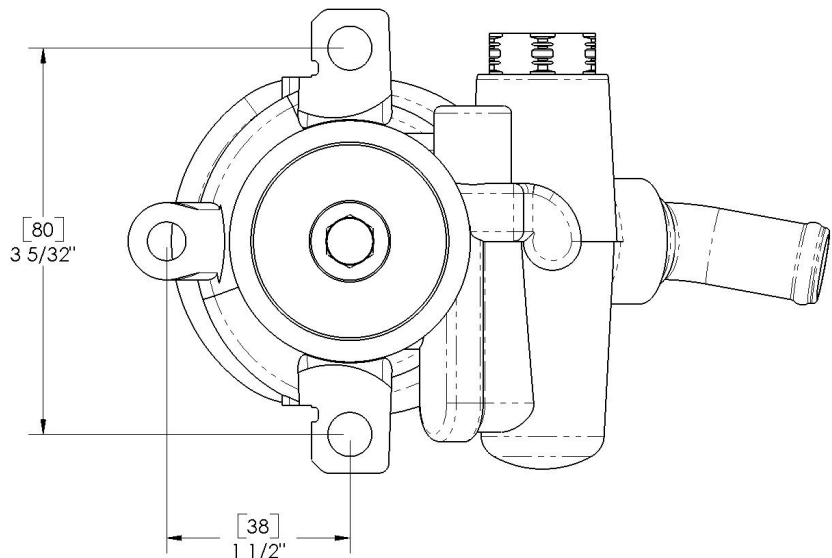
1. The "P" family. This style goes back to the 1960s and usually has an integrated reservoir. Today, P pumps are most often found in heavier-duty trucks.
2. The "TC" family. These can be found in many passenger cars from the late 1980s on and have removable reservoirs or remote reservoirs. This is what your LS engine most likely came with from the factory. A very similar pump is the "CB" family, which is physically almost identical.

The Kwik Performance bracket kit is designed for TC style pumps.

If your engine didn't come with a power steering pump, you can find one in the usual places: Salvage yards, swap meets, eBay, auto parts stores, or GM dealers.

While there are some differences in pressure and volume settings, all GM passenger cars are close enough to interchange successfully. One exception would be if you're building some kind of 4WD rock crawler and need added volume and pressure.

There are also minor differences in mounting boss styles. Most TC pumps have three bosses and our bracket has three bolt holes to match. The standard pump, with the 80mm by 38mm hole pattern, is shown at right. Some pump bosses are threaded, some are clean bored and require bolts with nuts. One of our customers found a TC pump on a Holden 2005 GTO engine with only two mounting bosses and reports that it's working fine with just two bolts. The 2004 GTO has a completely different bolt pattern, and will not fit our brackets.



We've also discovered several pulley diameters starting at 5.25" and going up to 6.625". And of course, Corvette pumps have a different diameter shaft at .66". Everything else we've found is .75".

Be sure to do some price comparisons before buying a pump. Take a look at the differences NAPA charges for rebuilt pumps and their core charges:

Vehicle	Price	Core Charge
2005 Chevy Trailblazer	\$77.47	\$16.67
2000 Camaro	\$104.00	\$55.50
1991 Buick Century	\$62.49	\$4.50
1990 Chevy Beretta	\$54.01	\$33.33

By the way, there's a listing on eBay for pumps rebuilt by A1-Cardone. Their listing shows the Buick Century and Chevy Beretta as the same part number. Their price is \$31.02 plus \$13.13 shipping with no core charge.

If you use a pump which had an attached reservoir, you may need to tap some threads into the return port so you can use an AN fitting or a pipe thread hose barb.