

Forklift Winch

Forklift Winches - A winch is a mechanical device that specializes in pulling in or winding up or letting out or winding out the tension of a rope, wire cable, cable or a wire rope. In its most basic form it is constructed of a spool along with a connected hand crank. More complicated winches are seen at the heart of machines like for instance tow trucks, elevators and steam shovels. Sometimes the spool can be referred to as the winch drum. Elaborate designs have gear assemblies which could be powered by pneumatic, internal, hydraulic or electric combustion drives. Several winches could comprise a mechanical brake or a solenoid brake or a ratchet and pawl apparatus so as to prevent it from unwinding unless the pawl is retracted.

Generally, the rope is stored on the winch. There is a similar machine called a capstan that does not store the rope. In sailing, when trimming a line on a sailboat, the crew member operates the handle of the winch using one hand while tending the other so as to maintain tension on the turns. Several winches have a cleat or stripper so as to maintain tension. These designs are referred to as "self-tailing" winches.

Usually, a winch is used in huge theatrical shows as a part of the mechanism to transfer background. At times there are also winches actually imbedded in the stage to help transfer the many larger set pieces on and off the stage.

The new generation of winches have been made for snow and water sports allowing the riders to be pulled quickly across a body of water or of snow. This can stimulate a riding experience which is normally supplied by a wave runner, boat or a snow mobile.