

Winches for Forklift

Forklift Winch - A winch is a mechanical piece of equipment 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 an attached hand crank. More complex winches are found at the heart of machines such as tow trucks, elevators and steam shovels. Sometimes the spool could be known as the winch drum. Complex designs have gear assemblies that could be driven by internal, hydraulic, electric or pneumatic combustion drives. Some winches can comprise a solenoid brake or a mechanical brake or a pawl and ratchet apparatus to be able 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 which does not store the rope. In sailing, when trimming a line on a sailboat, the crew member works the winch handle with one hand while tailing the other so as to maintain tension on the turns. Several winches have a cleat or stripper to maintain tension. These designs are referred to as "self-tailing" winches.

Frequently, a winch is used in big theatrical productions as a part of the mechanism to move background. Every so often there are also winches actually imbedded in the stage to help transfer the several bigger set pieces on and off the stage.

Lately, winches have been made in specific designs for water and snow sports. This new generation of winches is designed to be able to pull riders quickly across a body of snow or of water. This could stimulate a riding experience that is typically supplied by a wave runner, boat or a snow mobile.