

Forklift Winches

Forklift Winch - A winch is a mechanical piece of equipment which specializes in winding out or pulling in or winding up or letting out the tension of a wire rope, a rope, wire cable or a cable. In its most basic form it is constructed of a spool together with a connected hand crank. More complicated winches are seen at the heart of machinery such as steam shovels, tow trucks and elevators. At times the spool could be called the winch drum. Elaborate designs have gear assemblies which can be driven by pneumatic, internal, hydraulic or electric combustion drives. Several winches could comprise a mechanical brake or a solenoid brake or a ratchet and pawl mechanism in order to stop it from unwinding unless the pawl is retracted.

Most often, the cable or rope is stored on the winch, nonetheless the capstan, a similar piece of equipment, does not store the rope. In sailing, when a line is trimmed on a sailboat, the crew member works the winch handle utilizing one hand while tailing the other to be able to maintain tension on the turns. Various winches have a stripper or cleat to be able to maintain tension. These designs are referred to as "self-tailing" winches.

Quite often, a winch is used in big theatrical shows as a part of the mechanics in order to move staging. Every now and then there are even winches actually imbedded in the stage to help transfer the many larger set pieces on and off the stage.

Recently, winches have been made in certain designs for water and snow sports. This new generation of winches is designed so as to pull riders swiftly across a body of water or of snow. This can stimulate a riding experience that is typically supplied by a wave runner, boat or a snow mobile.