

Winches for Forklift

Forklift Winch - A winch is a mechanical tool which specializes in pulling in or winding up or letting out or winding out the tension of a wire rope, a rope, wire cable or a cable. In its most simple form it is made of a spool with an attached hand crank. More complex winches are seen at the heart of machinery such as tow trucks, elevators and steam shovels. Sometimes the spool could be called the winch drum. Complex designs have gear assemblies which could be driven by hydraulic, electric, pneumatic or internal combustion drives. Several winches can include a solenoid brake or a mechanical brake or a ratchet and pawl apparatus to be able to stop it from unwinding unless the pawl is retracted.

Usually, the rope is stored on the winch. There is similar machinery 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 utilizing one hand while tailing the other so as to maintain tension on the turns. Various winches have a cleat or stripper to maintain tension. These designs are called "self-tailing" winches.

Normally, winches are used offstage as part of the mechanics so as to move background in large theatrical shows. A lot of times the winches are really embedded in the stage floor and utilized so as to move large set pieces off and on stage.

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