

Forklift Winch

Winches for Forklift - A winch is a mechanical device which specializes in pulling in or winding up or letting out or winding out the tension of a cable, wire rope, rope or a wire cable. In its most simple form it is constructed of a spool with a connected hand crank. More complex winches are found at the heart of machines such as tow trucks, elevators and steam shovels. Every now and then the spool could be called the winch drum. Complex designs have gear assemblies that can be powered by pneumatic, internal, hydraulic or electric combustion drives. Several winches may comprise a mechanical brake or a solenoid brake or a pawl and ratchet mechanism to be able to stop it from unwinding unless the pawl is retracted.

Commonly, the rope or cable is stored on the winch, nevertheless the capstan, a similar machine, 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 to be able to maintain tension on the turns. Some winches have a cleat or stripper so as to maintain tension. These designs are referred to as "self-tailing" winches.

Often, winches are used offstage as part of the mechanics so as to transfer staging in big theatrical shows. Many times the winches are actually embedded in the stage floor and used to transfer huge set pieces off and on stage.

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