

Forklift Winch

Winches for Forklift - A winch is a mechanical piece of equipment that specializes in winding up or letting out or winding out or pulling in the tension of a rope, wire cable, cable or a wire rope. In its most simple form it is constructed of a spool together with an attached hand crank. More complex winches are found at the heart of machines such as tow trucks, elevators and steam shovels. At times the spool could be known as the winch drum. Complex designs have gear assemblies that can be driven by internal, hydraulic, electric or pneumatic combustion drives. Some winches could include a solenoid brake or a mechanical brake or a ratchet and pawl apparatus in order to stop it from unwinding unless the pawl is retracted.

Normally, the rope is stored on the winch. There is a similar machine known as a capstan which does not store the rope. In sailing, when a line is trimmed on a sailboat, the crew member operates the handle of the winch with one hand while tending the other to be able to maintain tension on the turns. Several winches have a cleat or stripper to be able to maintain tension. These designs are referred to as "self-tailing" winches.

Frequently, winches are used offstage as part of the mechanics to move staging in large theatrical shows. Many times the winches are really embedded in the stage floor and used in order to move big set pieces off and on stage.

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