

Forklift Winch

Forklift Winches - 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 made of a spool along with an attached hand crank. More complex winches are seen at the heart of machinery like for example tow trucks, elevators and steam shovels. Every now and then the spool could be called the winch drum. Elaborate designs have gear assemblies which could be driven by pneumatic, internal, hydraulic or electric combustion drives. Some winches could comprise a mechanical brake or a solenoid brake or a ratchet and pawl device so as to prevent it from unwinding unless the pawl is retracted.

Usually, the rope is stored on the winch. There is a similar machine called a capstan which 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 tending the other to be able to maintain tension on the turns. Various winches have a stripper or cleat so as to maintain tension. These designs are called "self-tailing" winches.

Often, winches are used offstage as part of the mechanism in order to move backdrop in big theatrical shows. Lots of times the winches are actually embedded in the stage floor and used to be able to move huge set pieces on and off stage.

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