

Winch for Forklift

Forklift Winch - 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 simple form it is made of a spool with an attached hand crank. More complex winches are found at the heart of machines like for example tow trucks, elevators and steam shovels. Every so often the spool can be called the winch drum. Elaborate designs have gear assemblies which can be powered by electric, pneumatic, internal or hydraulic combustion drives. Various winches could comprise a solenoid brake or a mechanical brake or a ratchet and pawl mechanism so as to prevent it from unwinding unless the pawl is retracted.

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

Frequently, a winch is used in huge theatrical productions as a part of the mechanics to transfer background. Every so often there are even winches really imbedded in the stage to help move the several bigger set pieces off and on the stage.

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