

Winch for Forklift

Forklift Winch - A winch is a mechanical device which specializes in pulling in or winding up or letting out or winding out the tension of a wire cable, cable, wire rope or a rope. In its most basic form it is constructed of a spool along with an attached hand crank. More complicated winches are seen at the heart of machinery like elevators, steam shovels and tow trucks. At times the spool can be referred to as the winch drum. Complex designs have gear assemblies which could be driven by internal, hydraulic, electric or pneumatic combustion drives. Various winches could include a solenoid brake or a mechanical brake or a pawl and ratchet mechanism to be able to stop it from unwinding unless the pawl is retracted.

Generally, 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 making use of one hand while tending the other so as to maintain tension on the turns. Some winches have a stripper or cleat to maintain tension. These designs are known as "self-tailing" winches.

Normally, winches are used offstage as part of the mechanism to transfer background in large theatrical productions. Lots of times the winches are really embedded in the stage floor and utilized in order to move big set pieces off and on stage.

The new generation of winches have been made 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 that is usually supplied by a wave runner, boat or a snow mobile.