

## Forklift Winches

Forklift Winch - A winch is a mechanical tool which specializes in letting out, or winding out or pulling in or winding up the tension of a cable, wire rope, rope or a wire cable. In its most simple form it is made of a spool with an attached hand crank. More complicated winches are seen at the heart of machinery such as tow trucks, elevators and steam shovels. Occasionally the spool can be called the winch drum. Elaborate designs have gear assemblies that could be driven by internal, hydraulic, electric or pneumatic combustion drives. Some winches could comprise 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 similar machinery called a capstan that does not store the rope. In sailing, when a line is trimmed on a sailboat, the crew member operates the winch handle making use of one hand while tending the other so as to maintain tension on the turns. Various winches have a stripper or cleat so as to maintain tension. These designs are known as "self-tailing" winches.

Frequently, winches are used backstage as part of the mechanics to be able to transfer setting in large theatrical shows. Lots of times the winches are actually embedded in the stage floor and used so as to move big set pieces on and off stage.

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