

## Forklift Winch

Forklift Winch - Winches are mechanical devices which are able to wind out, or pull up the tension of a wire cable, cable, wire rope or a rope. These tools, in its most basic form, are constructed of a hand crank and a spool. More complex winches are seen at the heart of machines like tow trucks, elevators and steam shovels. Every so often the spool could be called the winch drum. Elaborate designs have gear assemblies that can be driven by electric, pneumatic, internal or hydraulic combustion drives. Some winches could include a mechanical brake or a solenoid brake or a pawl and ratchet mechanism in order to prevent it from unwinding unless the pawl is retracted.

Most often, the cable or rope is stored on the winch, however the capspan, a similar piece of equipment, does not store the rope. In sailing, when trimming a line on a sailboat, the crew member operates the handle of the winch with one hand while tailing the other in order to maintain tension on the turns. Some winches have a cleat or stripper to maintain tension. These designs are referred to as "self-tailing" winches.

Frequently, winches are used offstage as part of the mechanics to transfer staging in big theatrical productions. Lots of times the winches are actually embedded in the stage floor and used to be able to move big set pieces off and on stage.

Recently, winches have been made in particular designs for water and snow sports. This new generation of winches is designed to pull riders quickly 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.