

## Rough Terrain Forklift

Used Rough Terrain Forklift California - Broadly defined, a forklift truck uses two forks to load, transport and unload material. Forklifts fall into two main categories, industrial forklifts and rough terrain forklifts. The first category of forklifts, industrial forklifts, are mostly used in warehouses and at loading docks on surfaces that are relatively smooth and level. Rough terrain forklifts are better suited for rocky environments and uneven surfaces. Due to size, tires, and weight capacity, a rough terrain lift is primarily used outdoors, often at construction sites. The tire type is one of the key differences between rough terrain and industrial forklift units. Common road tires, cushion tires are the main kind found on industrial forklifts. Rough terrain forklifts, on the other hand, are fitted with pneumatic tires, a type of tractor tire allowing for better traction and flotation properties. Internal combustion engines can power industrial forklifts; however, more often they rely on an electrical source such as a fuel cell or better. Rough terrain models typically rely on an internal combustion engine.

**Types of Class 7 Rough Terrain Forklift Trucks** There are three main kinds of Class 7 Rough Terrain Forklift Trucks. The rotating telehandler forklift, straight mast forklifts and rotating forklifts are in this category. Regardless of its type, all rough terrain forklift trucks are designed to handle, as their name suggests, natural rough terrain and disturbed rough terrain typical of construction and military sites. A rough terrain forklift also offers increased maneuverability and performance. Additional consideration needs to be given for rough terrain forklift options while raising loads in difficult conditions in order to stay safe from tipping over. The machine needs to remain in a stable position prior to lowering, lifting or moving any items. Rough terrain forklift operators must practice correct lifting techniques to remain stable on the ground.

**Straight Mast Forklifts** Straight mast forklifts are designed to transport building materials around a range of rough terrain sites such as demolition and construction sites. These forklift trucks provide increased maneuverability and accessibility because it is fitted with big, heavy-duty pneumatic cushion tires. Uneven ground and rough surfaces are no match for pneumatic tires. Most straight mast forklift units have 2WD or 4WD configurations. Even though these machines are better utilized in exterior locations, many straight mast forklifts operate with propane or diesel, enabling them to be used indoors for short timeframes. Straight mast forklifts have a similar lift capacity compared to standard forklift models; ranging from 5K to 36K lbs.

**Telehandler or Telescopic Handler Forklifts** The distinct telescoping boom on telehandlers and telescopic handler forklifts contribute to the unit's name. Telescoping booms are handy for allowing the machine to load and place items at different lift heights and distances in front of the forklift. The reachability of the forklift provides the operator with greater flexibility when placing a load. A standard telehandler forklift is long and low, with two wheels at the very front of the forklift and another pair of wheels toward the rear of the machine. The telescopic boom can be found at the back of the forklift, mounted on a pivot that is attached many feet higher than the frame of the unit. The left side of the machine houses the cab and the hydraulic fluid tank and the fuel tank are found opposite to the cab. Along the center of the machine, the engine and transmission can be found inside the frame. This common configuration allows for a balanced forklift which is necessary for the basic stability of the machine which lifting, transporting and lowering loads. Compared to standard forklifts, telehandlers deliver higher lift heights. Otherwise known as high-reach telehandlers or compact telehandlers, these models perform. Compact telehandlers can extend their full load capacity from eight-teen feet and the high-reach models to fifty-six feet. Their load capacities usually range between 5,500 and 12,000 pounds. All-terrain forklifts rely on all-wheel steering to deliver better maneuverability and stability. The power-shift transmission and steering features allow the operator to move the forklift into a safe and successful working proximity. Recent telehandler units showcase top-of-the-line ergonomic design to generate increased comfort and operator satisfaction. Operator comfort is enhanced via larger cabs and tilted steering. High in demand at job sites, these ergonomic options reduce operator fatigue and repetitive stress injuries. Most telehandler forklifts rely

on a single joystick. The joystick is responsible for the hydraulic system and the boom operations. These machines can use non-marking tires to allow them to be suitable for maintenance in stadiums and on buildings or billboards and sign operations. Rotating Telehandler or Roto Telescopic Handler Forklifts The basic telehandler forklift has much in common with rotating telehandlers and roto telescopic handler forklifts. Telehandlers are capable of rotating heavy-lift weights to tremendous heights. This unit's added turntable and rotation flexibility increases the types of jobs it can complete. The rotating function allows the forklift to swivel a full 360 degrees around, enabling access a much larger work area without having to reposition the forklift. With rotating telehandlers, one joystick handles the lift capacity and a second joystick is responsible for the rotation factor. As with the standard telehandler forklift, rotating telehandlers are available with added features including power assist steering, four-wheel drive and minimized slip differential on the rear axle to boost traction and for additional safety. Any machine with rotation capabilities will have additional safety measures to consider. Because of this, rotating telehandler rough terrain forklifts come with stabilizers to increase the safety when rotating loads from one side of the forklift to the other. Some rotating telehandlers do not have stabilizers. These units are created to move and work in various aspects of the job site and are easier to reposition without stabilizers. The standard telehandler offers fixed cab components and rotator telehandlers are generally smaller in comparison. Therefore, rotator telehandler units can access smaller loads when compared to standard telehandler units. Rotating telehandlers offer load capacities ranging from 4000 to 10,000 lbs. and lift heights between fifteen to eighty feet. Standard and rotator telehandlers can double as a crane when outfitted with specific winch accessories. This means that these forklifts can sometimes allow a project to forego the need for a crane at the jobsite, saving time, expense and workspace. Advancements for Rough Terrain Forklifts Popular rough terrain forklift attachments include rotating fork carriages, booms, articulating booms and winches. Forklift attachments are vital for diversifying the machine. They will continue to be developed for years to come. However, the bulk of advancements are expected to be in the form of safety features, built-in to manufactured rough terrain forklifts. Automatic load restriction units and certain safety features have started being implemented. This system weighs a load automatically and then calculates the safe reach distance of the load while considering the extension and boom angle. An alarm will go off once the safe distance is reached. This alerts the operator that immediate adjustments need to be made to the boom angle, reach distance or load weight.