

## **Rough Terrain Forklift**

Used Rough Terrain Forklift Washington - Broadly defined, a forklift truck uses two forks to load, transport and unload material. The two main categories of forklifts are industrial forklift and rough terrain forklift. The first category of forklifts, industrial forklifts, are mostly used in warehouses and at loading docks on surfaces that are relatively smooth and level. Ideal for uneven terrain and rocky locations, rough terrain forklifts travel well in difficult environments. Due to size, tires, and weight capacity, a rough terrain lift is primarily used outdoors, often at construction sites. The main difference between industrial and rough terrain forklifts is that industrial forklifts are fitted with cushion tires, a common, over-the-road type tire. Pneumatic tires are utilized by rough terrain models. They are similar to tractor tires that offer more traction and flotation. Industrial forklifts can be powered by internal combustion engines but are more frequently powered by an electrical source, such as battery or fuel cell whereas rough terrain forklifts are almost always powered by an internal combustion engine.

**Types of Class 7 Rough Terrain Forklift Trucks** The three types of Class 7 Rough Terrain Forklift Trucks include the rotating telehandler forklifts, telehandler forklifts and straight mast forklifts. Every rough terrain forklift truck is designed to operate on disturbed ground and difficult locations commonly found in military and construction atmospheres. The rough terrain models travel and perform well in difficult locations. 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. Stability of ground and knowledge of proper lifting technique is essential for safe operation of rough terrain forklifts.

**Straight Mast Forklifts** Designed to facilitate safe transport along difficult terrain such as demolition sites and construction locations, straight mast forklifts can complete the job safely and efficiently. Pneumatic cushion tires allow this forklift better maneuverability and accessibility around difficult terrain. Uneven ground and rough surfaces are no match for pneumatic tires. Most straight mast forklift units have 2WD or 4WD configurations. The majority of straight mast forklifts rely on propane or diesel fuel to equip them for interior short-term jobs. However, these machines are best suited for outside jobs. The lift capacities of straight mast forklifts are similar to most standard forklifts with a range of approximately 5,000 to 36,000 pounds.

**Telehandler or Telescopic Handler Forklifts** The distinct telescoping boom on telehandlers and telescopic handler forklifts contribute to the unit's name. This telescoping boom allows the forklift truck to pick up and place loads at various distances and lift heights in front of the machine. The operator can achieve enhanced flexibility with better reach during load placement. 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. A telescopic boom is mounted at the rear of the forklift on a pivot that is fixed several feet higher than the forklift frame. The hydraulic fluid tank and fuel tank are mounted on the opposite side of the cab which is usually situated on the left side of the forklift. The forklift engine and transmission are situated along the center of the machine. This common configuration allows for a balanced forklift which is necessary for the basic stability of the machine which lifting, transporting and lowering loads. Telehandler forklifts provide much greater lift heights when compared to a standard forklift. Also called compact telehandlers or high-reach telehandlers, these forklift trucks can lift their full load capacities from 18 feet, for the compact telehandlers, to 56 feet, for the high-reach telehandlers, into the air. The load capacities of these machines range from five thousand pounds to twelve thousand pounds. All-terrain forklifts often include all-wheel steering which allows for greater maneuverability. Thanks to steering features including power-shift transmission, the operator can maneuver the machine in excellent proximity to the work location. More recently, Telehandler forklift models have included additional features that incorporate the latest in ergonomics. Spacious cabs and tilted steering are some of the items redesigned for the ultimate comfort and productive features. High in demand at job sites, these ergonomic options reduce operator fatigue and

repetitive stress injuries. A single joystick is a common design for most telehandlers. The joystick controls all the forklift's boom functions as well as the hydraulic system which allows for straightforward and efficient operation. Telehandler forklifts can also be equipped with non-marking tires which allow them to be used in other applications such as the installation of signs and billboards as well as maintenance on buildings and stadiums. Rotating Telehandler or Roto Telescopic Handler Forklifts Rotating telehandler or roto telescopic handler forklifts have many features in common with the standard telehandler forklift. These include the rotating telehandler's ability to lift heavy weight to great heights. This unit's added turntable and rotation flexibility increases the types of jobs it can complete. Rotating the forklift a complete three-hundred-and-sixty degrees creates a larger working location without the need of repositioning the forklift. With rotating telehandlers, one joystick handles the lift capacity and a second joystick is responsible for the rotation factor. Power-assist steering minimized slip differential on the rear axle for additional traction and four-wheel drive are some of the extra features offered on rotating telehandlers and standard telehandler models. Of course, a machine that can rotate has extra safety considerations to understand. Stabilizers are a rough terrain forklift feature that rotating telehandler models rely on to increase safety while handling rotating loads that are swinging back and forth from each side of the machine. There are some rotating telehandlers that are designed to move heavy weights without stabilizers to reduce the time it takes to reposition the forklift for work in other areas of the jobsite. Rotator telehandler units are typically smaller than standard telehandlers with their fixed-cab design. Therefore, rotator telehandler units can access smaller loads when compared to standard telehandler units. Ranging between four thousand and ten thousand pounds, rotating telehandlers can reach lift heights from 15 to 80 feet. Winch attachments can transform rotator telehandlers and standard models into a crane. 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 Many attachments are currently available for rough terrain forklifts, such as booms, winches, rotating fork carriages and articulating booms. Because of the importance of forklift attachments in their ability to adapt forklifts to many different types of specific jobs, it is expected that the creation and availability of new rough terrain forklift attachments will continue to increase. The majority of advancements will be delivered as safety features built to enhance the rough terrain models. 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 sounds once the safe distance is reached, warning the operator to make load weight, reach distance or boom angle adjustments.