

## Multi Directional Forklift

Used Side Loader Forklift Phoenix - A side loader forklift truck is made for lifting very heavy and long items within the confines of the narrow aisles of a warehouse, lumber yard, loading dock or other facility. Side loaders have earned their name due to their design and the way they transport, load and unload items.

**Benefits of Side Loader Forklifts v Standard Forklifts** Forklifts that rely on the original counterbalance system can become unstable when moving long or heavy loads. However, the side loader forklift is specially designed to handle these types of loads, such as long pipes and raw timber, providing much more stability. Having the load face the direction of travel ensures that timber and steel can be easier to maneuver. They also offer the advantage of providing the driver of the forklift with an unobstructed view, which is otherwise at least somewhat or greatly impeded by the tires and load carried at the front on a standard forklift. Side loaders can access narrow aisles and tighter doorways with ease since loads are transported down the side of the machine instead of on the front as with a standard forklift. The load may have to be raised on regular forklifts to travel around obstacles that increase the chances of tipping over. A side loader forklift makes much of that maneuvering unnecessary. These units help warehouse locations to manage smaller spaces much more safely. Programmable travel speeds can be found on many models. Units can lift up to twelve thousand pounds and travel at speeds greater than five miles an hour. This feature allows the operator to match speed to a specific application.

**Types of Side Loader Forklifts** Class 2 - Electric Motor Narrow Aisle Trucks Side loader forklifts often fall under the Class 2 - Electric Motor Narrow Aisle Trucks classification. This kind of forklift classification covers electrically sourced narrow aisle forklifts. The side loader is useful for handling long and narrow loads in similar locations including lumber, carpet and laminate. These machines are additionally used for rack storage and feeding machine tools. The narrow aisle set up is common in warehouses because it allows for the maximum possible use of a storage area which helps to save on costly square footage as well as travel time between material and loading and unloading areas. Class 2 side loaders take up less space compared to traditional forklift trucks. These machines create better efficiency and speed while moving, unloading and loading narrow aisle locations. Because they are designed primarily for indoor facility use, their electrical power source also means that the harmful emissions that would accumulate from the use of an internal combustion engine are eliminated.

**Internal Combustion Engine Side Loader Forklifts** Side loaders that are not powered by electricity obviously do not fall under the Class 2 forklift classification. The side loader design is popular for outdoor use as well in places such as timber and lumber yards, steel and pipe producers and many other similar job sites that require long, heavy loads to be transported to and from storage areas, such as racking, or stacking loads in blocks, or offloading from flatbeds. Exterior side loaders need to work outside and on uneven surfaces. This means an internal combustion engine and, sometimes, pneumatic tires are a better option for the job. Side loaders are great for these work environments as they are built to handle the length of items and the weight. Picking items up in the middle is vital for loading and unloading long materials safely and efficiently.

**Side Loader Forklift Design** The side loader forklift comes in two basic designs: 1. Stand on; and 2. Sit down. **Stand On Side Loader Forklifts** Stand-on side loaders are found in warehouses and interior applications. They feature a small platform generally found in the middle of the unit that is where the operator stands and is surrounded by controls. The stand on unit has many advantages. It creates a more compact machine and smaller cab design since there is no seat for the operator. A forklift operating with a smaller footprint is excellent for working in high-traffic locations. The operator also has increased visibility when operating in a standing position, especially when operating the forklift in reverse. In the stand up position, an operator can turn his whole body to view the rear of the truck when reversing direction whereas in a sit down position the operator must twist his back and neck to get a clear view behind. This is clearly an advantage in terms of safety as well as comfort. Increased operator visibility also helps to decrease damage to products and facilities.

Operators can get onto and off of the stand up forklift faster compared to a sit-down model and this may increase efficiency in certain situations. Sit Down Side Loader Forklifts Of the two basic designs, the sit down side loader forklift is the most popular. Sit-down side loaders have a cab that is situated in the center of the machine. The difference that a sit down forklift has a raised platform with a seat facing the forklift's control panel. The advantages of a sit down side loader are mostly in operator comfort. The machine enhances productivity and reduces fatigue when operators can work from a resting position. Customizable Features Because of the wide range of jobs that use side loader forklifts, the side loader is available in customizable bed lengths. Popular for heavy and bulky items, the standard side loader has been designed to fit heavy and bulky loads. A sixty-inch extension upwards may be utilized for special jobs. However, when customizing a side loader feature such as the bed length, consideration must be given to the width of aisles at the relevant jobsite as guide rails and aisles may need adjusting to accommodate the extra sized forklift, which is likely to affect budget and productivity. These machines can function in a multidirectional manner. Crab steering on side loaders refers to having two wheels function independently from the other wheels. Crab steering allows the unit to travel in all four directions by changing the direction of the wheels. The side loader can fit into close quarters and narrow spaces without needing to make huge turns or adjustments. The smaller turning radius increases safety while decreasing damage to product and facilities. Efficiency is further achieved by lessening the space and time required to travel around the job. Numerous side loader features can be customized to suit a job site. Tine length, mirrors, lights, lift mast heights and lift capacities are some of the custom options available. Certain features are also adjustable, allowing for further customization of the side loader for the particular job application. Travel speed, acceleration time, load limits and braking force can all be set allowing further job efficiency and increased workplace safety. For all of the above reason, the side loader forklift has become the most popular option for workplaces where space is limited and long loads are involved.