

Cushion Tire Forklift

Used Cushion Tire Forklift Los Angeles - Most forklifts are classified by the kind of work they do and some are classified by their type of tires. There are two main kinds of tire classification for forklifts, pneumatic and cushion tire. There are drawbacks and benefits to both pneumatic and cushion forklift tire options. The cushion tire benefits and drawbacks can only be understood in the context of what the pneumatic tire offers in terms of forklift operation.

Forklift Tire Classifications Cushion Tires Cushion tires are made up of either smooth or treaded solid rubber and are designed around a metal ring or baseband. These kinds of forklift tires are cheaper to make and easier to maintain. This type of tire is made to work on smooth surfaces such as indoor concrete floors and loading docks. Cushion tires are also better suited to applications in tight spaces. This is because they offer a turning radius that allows for movement around tight corners. Forklifts that use cushion tires can be lower to the ground compared to pneumatic tire models and the increase in vertical clearance is welcome for many applications. Pneumatic tires provide better traction compared to cushion tires; especially on wet surfaces and outdoor locations. Cushion tires forklifts are commonly used for organizing inventory, moving items to and from different loading docks, unloading shipments and similar applications.

Pneumatic Tires Pneumatic tires, on the other hand, are primarily designed to operate in rougher terrain, with uneven surfaces. These tires have two categorizations: The main difference with these categories is that the standard air pneumatic tires consist of a layered rubber design filled with air and the solid resilient pneumatic type is made completely out of rubber. Pneumatic tire forklifts are excellent choices for working in locations with uneven or unpaved ground outdoors. The solid resilient pneumatic forklift tires are best used in areas such as lumber yards or junkyards and construction sites where there may be sharp metal items on the ground which could puncture the tires.

Benefits of Cushion Tire Forklifts Forklifts fitted with cushion tires are a good option for operation on smooth surfaces, both indoor and outdoor. The majority of forklifts that rely on cushion tires are used mostly indoors with limited outdoor use. Cushion tire forklifts are commonly used in warehouses and manufacturing plants. Cushion tire models excel in tight locations including narrow aisles and accessing high shelves. Some benefits of using a cushion tire forklift over a pneumatic tire forklift are:

- 1) **Maneuverability** Most cushion tire forklifts intended for indoor use are electric, which means they are usually smaller and more maneuverable because they do not required the extra room needed to accommodate the larger internal combustion engine.
- 2) **Lower Clearance** Indoor cushion tire forklifts have lower clearance compared to pneumatic models; allowing the machine to travel easier through doorways and around lights or sprinkler obstacles.
- 3) **Durability** Cushion tires for forklifts are durable, easy to maintain and have little to no risk of puncture.
- 4) **Quiet** Most cushion tire forklift models use a fuel cell or battery as opposed to an internal combustion engine and are much quieter compared to their diesel or propane counterparts.
- 5) **Environmentally Friendly** Cushion tire forklifts are more environmentally friendly as they use electricity and produce no harmful emissions, compared to internal combustion engine models.

Forklift Tire Choice The majority of forklift frames specify either a pneumatic tire or a cushion tire. The forklifts' lifting capacity and frame are specific to the axles and tires in the design. Most forklift manufacturers design forklifts to operate safely with specific wheels and tires, namely cushion tires or pneumatic tires. Instead of trying to modify the forklift by picking the correct tire for a particular application, it is wiser to choose the forklift that will best suit the job at hand.

Workplace Applications Suitable Work Applications for Cushion Tires There are many work applications suitable for using cushion tire forklift models. If there is moderate use of the forklift outside on smooth surfaces and the majority of the lifting, loading and transporting will be occurring inside on smooth floors, a cushion tire model is an excellent tool. Forklifts fitted with cushion tires often have a smaller frame and sit much lower to the ground than forklifts fitted with pneumatic tires. Cushion tire models can fit through doorways easier and avoid overhead obstacles. It is important to note that cushion tire forklifts showcase less ground clearance and the machine may get caught up on exterior

obstacles if the ground is uneven. One solution is to outfit traction tires on the front of the cushion tire forklift. Traction based tires will function in rough terrain environments that have wet surfaces, packed gravel and asphalt. Traction tires are not used on dirt or grass locations and need to be installed on opposite sides, the drive and steer axles. One of the largest advantages of using a forklift with cushion tires is the smaller turning radius. This makes cushion tire forklifts ideal for warehouses and manufacturing facilities that have less space. Areas that are designed with narrow aisles such as warehouse facilities will enjoy the tighter turning radius offered with cushion tire forklift models. Cushion tire forklifts are more cost-effective and available compared to pneumatic tire models. Suitable Work Applications for Pneumatic Tire Forklifts Since pneumatic tires contain air, these forklifts are better suited for exterior applications. Interior applications may use pneumatic tire forklift models although they will not provide the maneuverability, lower clearance or tighter turning radius. Pneumatic tire models create harsh fumes with their internal combustion engines, making them unsuitable for interior locations. Measuring wider and longer in comparison to cushion tire forklifts, pneumatic tire models are mostly utilized outside. There are two kinds of pneumatic tires; the air-filled pneumatic tire is less expensive than the solid pneumatic tire. This is because a solid pneumatic tire is not susceptible to punctures or gouges because they are made of solid rubber and do not have air in them. Solid pneumatic tires are commonly used in lumber and scrap yards where there are tons of sharp, metal debris including nails. Air pneumatic tires work great outside on gravel and asphalt applications. The main issue with air pneumatic tires is their ability to become gouged or punctured. Due to their susceptibility for getting gouged or punctured, the work location must be free from sharp debris before driving the air pneumatic tires. Since air-filled tires deliver a bouncy sensation, they contribute to operator fatigue and discomfort. It is possible to foam fill the pneumatic forklift tires for a smoother ride. Much less bouncy than air-filled pneumatic tires, the solid pneumatic forklift tires provide the operator with a smoother ride. Foam filling is commonly used for flat tire prevention. It takes roughly three days to fill and cure an air pneumatic tire with foam. Difference in Load Capacity The load capacity on for pneumatic tire forklifts and cushion tire forklifts are fairly equal. There may be lift limits on certain electric-powered cushion tire models. However, cushion and pneumatic tire forklifts can basically be obtained with just about any load capacity. Load capacities come in a wide range - from less than 2,000 pounds to more than 200,000 pounds.