

## Cushion Tire Forklift

Used Cushion Tire Forklift Elk Grove - Forklift trucks are commonly classified by the kind of work they complete as well as the kind of tire they use. There are two main kinds of tire classification for forklifts, pneumatic and cushion tire. It is vital to note that there are benefits and drawbacks to both types of forklift tires; cushion and pneumatic. The drawbacks and benefits of cushion tire models can be only compared when the drawbacks and benefits of the pneumatic tires are also discussed. Forklift Tire Classifications

**Cushion Tires** Cushion tires feature solid rubber that is either smooth or treaded and fixed or positioned around a baseband or metal ring. Cushion tires cost less to make and are easier to take care of. Cushion tires are designed for smooth surface applications such as work that takes place mostly indoors or around loading docks. Cushion tires make travelling in tight locations much easier to navigate around corners due to their tight radius. Cushion tires enable the forklift to be situated closer to the ground, increasing the vertical clearance in comparison to other models that rely on pneumatic tires. Pneumatic tires provide better traction compared to cushion tires; especially on wet surfaces and outdoor locations. There are many jobs suitable for cushion tire forklifts such as unloading shipments, transporting items to and from the loading areas, order picking, unloading inventory and more.

**Pneumatic Tires** Pneumatic tires have two categorizations as either solid resilient pneumatic or standard air pneumatic. They are popular for rough terrain applications and uneven surfaces. The difference between these two pneumatic categories is that the first is made entirely of rubber, while the latter is a layered rubber, filled with air. Pneumatic tire forklifts are excellent choices for working in locations with uneven or unpaved ground outdoors. Locations that have sharp debris or objects that could puncture a standard air pneumatic tires such as junkyards or lumber yards will benefit from solid resilient pneumatic forklift tires.

**Benefits of Cushion Tire Forklifts** Cushion tire forklifts can be used inside and outside on smooth surfaces. The forklift designed for use with cushion tires, is intended to be used mostly indoors, with some limited outdoor use. They are often designed for use in areas such as manufacturing plants and warehouses. Warehousing and narrow aisles and tight locations all rely on the benefits of cushion tire forklifts. Some benefits of using a cushion tire forklift over a pneumatic tire forklift are:

- 1) **Maneuverability** Maneuverability is one of the key pneumatic tire forklift benefits since these models do not require a larger frame to facilitate a bigger internal combustion engine.
- 2) **Lower Clearance Forklifts** built for indoor use with cushion tires generally have a lower clearance than pneumatic tire equipment, allowing the forklift to more easily navigate doorways and other obstacles such as lights and sprinkler systems.
- 3) **Durability** Cushion tires for forklifts are durable, easy to maintain and have little to no risk of puncture.
- 4) **Quiet** Cushion tire forklifts do not use an internal combustion engine and instead rely on a battery or fuel cell, making them significantly quieter than their propane or diesel cousins.
- 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 forklift frame typically depicts whether a cushion tire or a pneumatic tire will be utilized. The forklifts' lifting capacity and frame are specific to the axles and tires in the design. Forklift manufacturers create models that safely operate with certain tires and wheels, typically pneumatic tires or cushion tires. Due to their special tire design, it is best to choose the forklift type that will suit the job in terms of forklift tire types.

**Workplace Applications** Suitable Work Applications for Cushion Tires Cushion tire forklifts are usually the best option for many workplace applications. If the majority of the load lifting, transporting and placing will occur indoors or with only moderate outdoor usage on smooth surfaces, then cushion tires are likely the best option. Cushion tire forklifts typically feature a smaller frame and sit much lower to the ground compared to pneumatic tire models. Cushion tire models can fit through doorways easier and avoid overhead obstacles. Although, cushion tire forklifts offer less ground clearance, this can cause damage to outdoor obstacles when the surface is uneven or unclear. To combat this issue, the cushion tire forklift can

be fitted with traction tires on the front. Tires that offer traction will perform better on wet surfaces, rough terrain, packed gravel and asphalt. However, it is still not recommended to drive on dirt or grass and it must be noted that the same type of tire must be used on the opposite sides, drive and steer axles. One of the top advantages of the cushion forklifts is their tight turning radius. Their ability to work in compact locations makes cushion tire forklifts excellent for warehousing and manufacturing operations. Warehouses that utilize a narrow aisle layout will especially benefit from the smaller turning radius of cushion tire forklifts. Pneumatic tire forklifts are more expensive and less available compared to cushion tire forklifts.

### Suitable Work Applications for Pneumatic Tire Forklifts

Since pneumatic tires contain air, these forklifts are better suited for exterior applications. Pneumatic tires can also be used inside but do not provide the advantages of low clearance, maneuverability or small turning radius. Pneumatic tire models create harsh fumes with their internal combustion engines, making them unsuitable for interior locations. Pneumatic tire forklifts are longer and wider than cushion tire forklifts which is why they are primarily used outdoors. The solid pneumatic tire costs more compared to the air pneumatic tire. The solid pneumatic tire has no air inside and is made from solid rubber. This design makes the tire stronger against punctures or gouges. These solid pneumatic tires are best for scrap yards and lumber yards where the possibility of running over sharp metal scrap and debris, such as nails, is greatly increased. Air-filled pneumatic tires work well on gravel and asphalt exterior surfaces. 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. Air tires are also known to give a bouncy ride, contributing to operator discomfort and fatigue. Due to this, numerous air pneumatic forklift users fill foam in their tires. The foam filling option creates a more even ride compared to the solid pneumatic tires or the bounciness of the air-filled pneumatic tires. Flat tires can be filled with foam to keep them more durable and prevent flats. Filling an air pneumatic tire with foam usually takes approximately 3 days to fill and cure.

### Difference in Load Capacity

The load capacity on for pneumatic tire forklifts and cushion tire forklifts are fairly equal. Lift limits are given for certain electric-powered cushion tire forklifts. Pneumatic tire and cushion tire forklifts are available in practically any load capacity. These machines come in different load capacities from under 2000 lbs. to over 200,000 lbs. depending on your application.