

Drive It Like A Pro: Safe Forklift Operation



Pre-Start Inspection (before each shift)

- Exterior:
 - carriage
 - forks
 - hydraulics
 - oil, coolant, and fuel levels
 - tires
 - boom, frame, and overhead guard
 - Interior:
 - gauges
 - brakes
 - frame leveling function
 - boom
 - steering, horn, lights, and back-up alarm
- (Return all control levers to the neutral position after interior inspection is completed and report any problems to your supervisor.)

Maneuvering A Load

- Travel with carriage tilted back and forks about four inches from ground.
- Stay at least three truck lengths behind other vehicles.
- Drive in reverse when the load obstructs your view.



Putting Down A Load

- Square up to location.
- Stop about one foot away, level forks, drive in.
- Lower load, with forks tilted slightly forward.
- Slowly back straight out.
- Raise and retract boom until forks have cleared load.
- Lower boom before driving away.

Parking A Forklift

- Choose a safe, level place.
- Lower the forks to the ground.
- Move controls to neutral.
- Set brakes.
- Turn off engine.
- Cycle hydraulic functions.
- Remove key.
- Block wheels on an incline.