

## Steer Axles for Forklifts

Steer Axles for Forklift - The definition of an axle is a central shaft used for rotating a wheel or a gear. Where wheeled motor vehicles are concerned, the axle itself may be fixed to the wheels and turn together with them. In this situation, bearings or bushings are provided at the mounting points where the axle is supported. Conversely, the axle may be attached to its surroundings and the wheels could in turn revolve all-around the axle. In this instance, a bushing or bearing is situated in the hole in the wheel so as to allow the wheel or gear to revolve all-around the axle.

Whenever referring to cars and trucks, several references to the word axle co-occur in casual usage. Normally, the word refers to the shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself rotates together with the wheel. It is normally bolted in fixed relation to it and referred to as an 'axle shaft' or an 'axle.' It is also true that the housing surrounding it that is generally referred to as a casting is also known as an 'axle' or occasionally an 'axle housing.' An even broader sense of the term means every transverse pair of wheels, whether they are attached to one another or they are not. Therefore, even transverse pairs of wheels inside an independent suspension are generally referred to as 'an axle.'

The axles are an important component in a wheeled vehicle. The axle works so as to transmit driving torque to the wheel in a live-axle suspension system. The position of the wheels is maintained by the axles relative to one another and to the vehicle body. In this system the axles must also be able to bear the weight of the motor vehicle plus whatever cargo. In a non-driving axle, as in the front beam axle in some two-wheel drive light trucks and vans and in heavy-duty trucks, there would be no shaft. The axle in this particular condition serves only as a steering part and as suspension. Several front wheel drive cars have a solid rear beam axle.

The axle serves just to transmit driving torque to the wheels in several kinds of suspension systems. The angle and position of the wheel hubs is part of the functioning of the suspension system seen in the independent suspensions of new SUVs and on the front of several brand new cars and light trucks. These systems still consist of a differential but it does not have attached axle housing tubes. It can be attached to the vehicle body or frame or also can be integral in a transaxle. The axle shafts then transmit driving torque to the wheels. The shafts in an independent suspension system are like a full floating axle system as in they do not support the vehicle weight.

To finish, in reference to a motor vehicle, 'axle,' has a more ambiguous description. It means parallel wheels on opposing sides of the vehicle, regardless of their mechanical connection type to one another and the motor vehicle body or frame.