

## Steer Axles for Forklifts

Forklift Steer Axle - The classification of an axle is a central shaft used for turning a wheel or a gear. Where wheeled motor vehicles are concerned, the axle itself can be connected to the wheels and rotate together with them. In this particular situation, bushings or bearings are provided at the mounting points where the axle is supported. On the other hand, the axle may be fixed to its surroundings and the wheels can in turn rotate all-around the axle. In this particular situation, a bushing or bearing is located within the hole within the wheel to enable the gear or wheel to turn around the axle.

With trucks and cars, the word axle in several references is utilized casually. The word normally means shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself turns together with the wheel. It is normally bolted in fixed relation to it and called an 'axle shaft' or an 'axle.' It is equally true that the housing surrounding it which is usually called a casting is otherwise referred to as an 'axle' or at times an 'axle housing.' An even broader sense of the term means every transverse pair of wheels, whether they are connected to one another or they are not. Hence, even transverse pairs of wheels inside an independent suspension are generally referred to as 'an axle.'

In a wheeled motor vehicle, axles are an essential component. With a live-axle suspension system, the axles serve to be able to transmit driving torque to the wheel. The axles likewise maintain the position of the wheels relative to one another and to the motor vehicle body. In this particular system the axles must even be able to bear the weight of the vehicle plus whatever cargo. In a non-driving axle, like for instance the front beam axle in various two-wheel drive light vans and trucks and in heavy-duty trucks, there would be no shaft. The axle in this situation works just as a steering component and as suspension. Many front wheel drive cars consist of a solid rear beam axle.

There are other types of suspension systems wherein the axles function just to transmit driving torque to the wheels. The position and angle of the wheel hubs is a function of the suspension system. This is normally found in the independent suspension found in the majority of brand new SUV's, on the front of many light trucks and on most new cars. These systems still have a differential but it does not have attached axle housing tubes. It can be connected to the motor vehicle frame or body 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.

The vehicle axle has a more vague classification, meaning that the parallel wheels on opposing sides of the vehicle, regardless of their type of mechanical connection to one another.