

## Steer Axles for Forklifts

Forklift Steer Axles - The description of an axle is a central shaft for turning a wheel or a gear. Where wheeled vehicles are concerned, the axle itself can be fixed to the wheels and turn together with them. In this particular case, bearings or bushings are provided at the mounting points where the axle is supported. Conversely, the axle can be connected to its surroundings and the wheels could in turn rotate all-around the axle. In this situation, a bushing or bearing is placed in the hole within the wheel so as to enable the wheel or gear to revolve all-around the axle.

With cars and trucks, the word axle in some references is utilized casually. The term generally refers to the shaft itself, a transverse pair of wheels or its housing. The shaft itself rotates with the wheel. It is frequently bolted in fixed relation to it and known as an 'axle shaft' or an 'axle.' It is equally true that the housing surrounding it that is normally referred to as a casting is also referred to as an 'axle' or occasionally an 'axle housing.' An even broader sense of the term refers to every transverse pair of wheels, whether they are attached to one another or they are not. Thus, even transverse pairs of wheels inside an independent suspension are often called 'an axle.'

In a wheeled motor vehicle, axles are an essential part. With a live-axle suspension system, the axles serve to transmit driving torque to the wheel. The axles also maintain the position of the wheels relative to one another and to the vehicle body. In this particular system the axles should likewise be able to bear the weight of the vehicle together with any cargo. In a non-driving axle, like for instance the front beam axle in some two-wheel drive light vans and trucks and in heavy-duty trucks, there would be no shaft. The axle in this situation serves only as a steering component and as suspension. Various front wheel drive cars consist of a solid rear beam axle.

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

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