

Warehouse Handling Equipment Selection Guide

A practical guide for choosing forklifts, pallet trucks and stackers for real warehouse layouts.



2026 BUYER GUIDE

Selection should be based on load, aisle, lift height, travel distance, shift length and charging conditions.

FACTORY-DIRECT EQUIPMENT SUPPLY

WEBSITE | EMAIL | QUOTATION SUPPORT

START WITH THE TASK

Five Questions Before Choosing Equipment

A good selection reduces handling time, protects the load and avoids buying a machine that cannot work inside the actual aisle or doorway.

1 LOAD AND PALLET	2 AISLE AND HEIGHT	3 TRAVEL AND SHIFT
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- **What is the heaviest load?** Include pallet, packaging and any attachment.
- **Where must the load be placed?** Record maximum fork height and lowest overhead clearance.
- **How narrow is the working aisle?** Measure rack-to-rack width and right-angle stacking space.
- **How far does the machine travel?** Long transport favors rider pallet trucks or counterbalanced forklifts.
- **How many hours per shift?** This determines battery capacity, charger plan and backup equipment.



Warehouse pallet handling application from delingequipment.com



Electric Forklift

Unload, transport and stack



Electric Pallet Truck

Horizontal pallet transfer



Electric Pallet Stacker

Compact stacking tasks

EQUIPMENT COMPARISON

Which Machine Fits the Job?

Use this table as a first filter, then confirm dimensions and residual capacity with the final model data.

Equipment	Best for	Strengths	Limitations
Electric counterbalanced forklift	Loading, transport and stacking	Versatile, compact, low local emissions	Needs turning space and charging plan
Electric pallet truck	Horizontal pallet transport	Simple, efficient, low platform height	Not designed for high stacking
Electric pallet stacker	Short travel and pallet stacking	Narrower footprint than forklift	Lower travel speed and capacity range
Diesel forklift	Outdoor or ventilated loading work	Strong duty cycle and fast refueling	Noise and exhaust limit indoor use
Rough terrain forklift	Uneven outdoor yards	Traction and ground clearance	Larger turning radius and footprint

Choose a pallet truck

When the load stays near floor level and travel distance is the main task.

Choose a stacker

When pallets must be placed on low-to-medium racks in a tighter aisle.

Choose an electric forklift

When one machine must unload, transport and stack across varied warehouse tasks.

Choose a diesel forklift

When work is mainly outdoors or in well-ventilated loading areas with intensive use.

LAYOUT VERIFICATION

Dimensions You Must Measure

Do not rely only on brochure capacity. A warehouse is a system of clearances, turning paths and load positions.

Measurement	How to measure	Selection impact
Clear aisle width	Rack face to rack face	Turning and stacking model
Lowest doorway / beam	Floor to lowest obstruction	Lowered mast and guard height
Maximum rack level	Floor to pallet support	Required fork height
Ramp slope	Rise divided by run	Gradeability and traction
Pallet entry	Openings and fork pockets	Fork length and outside spread
Dock plate / container	Width, slope and floor load	Machine weight and clearance
Floor condition	Smooth, joints, debris, wet areas	Tire choice and ride quality



Loading and unloading at a warehouse dock

SELECTION WORKSHEET

Buyer Information for Quotation

Complete this checklist to receive a more accurate recommendation.

Item	Required information
Load	Maximum weight, dimensions and material
Pallet	Length, width, entry direction and fork pockets
Lift height	Maximum fork height and lowered mast limit
Aisle	Clear width and right-angle stacking space
Travel	Average and maximum travel distance
Duty cycle	Hours per shift and shifts per day
Environment	Indoor / outdoor, temperature, dust, wet or corrosive conditions
Power	Charging voltage, available time and battery preference
Options	Side shifter, fork positioner, cab, lights, special forks
Destination	Country, port, certification and emission requirements

SUBMIT FOR REVIEW

Send the completed information, layout drawing and pallet photos to sales@delingequipment.com. Deling will recommend suitable product types and configuration options.