

Motorized pallet jacks or manual pallet jacks are found in nearly every warehouse and are essential in many manufacturing and distribution work environments. These jacks can easily lift 2,500 pounds or more, making swift work of heavy loads that need to be moved.

- Wear required PPE when operating any pallet jack.
 - Always wear gloves when handling pallets.
 - Hard-toe boots are recommended when working with heavy loads or heavy equipment like pallet jacks.
 - Be aware of pinch points to avoid hand injuries
- Know the maximum load limit of the pallet jack you are operating. Never overload a pallet jack!
- Ensure loads are stacked evenly on the forks before moving the pallet jack.
- Inspect the floors where the pallet jack will be driven to ensure the path is clear.
- Keep loads as close to the ground as possible for transport.



OSHA Standard 1910.178(o)(1) *Only stable or safely arranged loads shall be handled. Caution shall be exercised when handling off-center loads which cannot be centered.*

- Do not ride on the forks of a pallet jack or allow others to be carried. Don't stand on a pallet jack.
- Operate the pallet jack at a safe speed. Start moving slowly and come to a stop slowly.
- Do not steer pallet jacks onto uneven surfaces and avoid steep inclines.
- When possible, push pallet jacks during transport. Pulling may allow better maneuverability but puts considerable strain on the back. Pushing uses stronger leg muscles and keeps the back straight.
- Never try to stop a pallet jack with hands or feet, this could cause serious injury, especially with a very heavy load.
- When transporting a load, keep the jack control in the 'neutral' position.
- Watch for clearance on both sides of the load.
- Move slowly enough that you can keep the load under control.

Not for resale or unauthorized redistribution. For all terms & conditions that apply, please visit www.weeklysafety.com.