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How to operate a scissor lift youtube

This is your complete guide to scissor lift safety. Safety is an important factor to consider when operating scissor lifts, like with any other equipment. So in this article, you'll learn: How safe scissor lifts are The top scissor lift hazards The laws and rules governing scissor lifts Scissor lift safety tips And much more! Let's dive in! A scissor lift is a piece of equipment with a rising and lowering platform that's used to move personnel vertically.

A JLG 20-foot electric scissor lift Scissor lifts get their name from their working mechanism. That is, a stack of crossed scissor-like tubes (X-pattern) that raise and lower the platform. No. Per OSHA, a scissor lift is technically scaffolding. More specifically, they're mobile scaffolding equipped with a platform that only moves vertically. Scissor lifts are technically not aerial lifts, like this boom lift is On the other hand, an aerial lift is any vehicle-mounted work platform designed to move vertically, horizontally, or both. The most common lifting heights for scissor lift are 19-feet and 26-feet. But some models can go higher.

For instance, Snorkel's S9070RT-HC scissor lift can raise a whopping 70-feet! Scissor lifts are not designed to carry loads like a forklift or telehandler is. Instead, they're designed to carry only workers, tools, and some light materials. Thus, their weight lifting capacities are generally limited. You can find a scissor lift's weight capacity on decals, the data plate, or the owner's manual On average, smaller lifts (like 19- and 26-foot models) can lift up to 500 lbs. But other, heavier-duty scissor lifts can lift up to 4,000 lbs.

Scissor lifts are almost synonymous with construction sites and facility maintenance applications. Scissor lifts are used in many applications, like construction, maintenance, and event planning But several other jobs use scissor lifts. Here are some of the industries and tasks that scissor lifts are used for: Construction: Electrical, HVAC, plumbing, welding, and drywall work Maintenance: Window washing, painting, and changing light bulbs Event planning: Lighting setup, hanging signage, and spanning banners OSHA has several standards that cover scissor lifts. These include: 1915.71 - Scaffolds or staging, 1926.451 - Scaffolds - General requirements, 1926.454 - Scaffolds - Training requirements, 1910.28 - Duty to have fall protection and falling object protection, 1910.29 - Fall protection systems and falling object protection-criteria and practices.

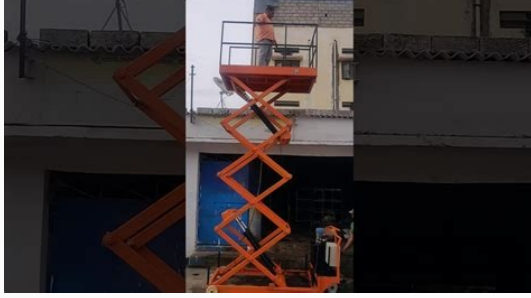


1910.333 - Selection and use of work practices, 1926.21 - Safety training and education, 1926.452 - Additional requirements to specific types of scaffolds. Of course, you can review each standard yourself to learn the specifics. But if you're looking for a brief overview, the OSHA scissor lift requirements broadly focus on training, hazard awareness, repairs and maintenance, and safety procedures. This includes: Safety training and education: Employers are responsible for giving their employees training and education on scissor lifts. Furthermore, only properly trained and authorized personnel can operate scissor lifts Hazard recognition: Operators must be aware of hazards when working at heights along with any ground conditions that could affect the safety and stability of the lift Fall protection: Scissor lifts should have guardrails. Furthermore, workers are prohibited from leaning against or standing on the guardrails Inspections and repairs: Personnel should inspect scissor lifts before operating.

Any defects should be noted and repaired before operating Now, OSHA's standards are not the only rules for scissor lifts. ANSI (American National Standards Institute) also sets industry standards for scissor lifts. If you're not familiar with ANSI, it's a private, nonprofit organization that creates industry standards for aerial working equipment. ANSI is the organization that devises industry rules for the design and use of aerial lifts OSHA, on the other hand, is the government agency tasked with ensuring workplace safety. OSHA is the government agency in charge of making rules for aerial lift usage Now, ANSI's standards are law. ANSI's standards, meanwhile, are voluntary industry regulations.



So does that mean you don't have to follow ANSI's standards?



Not necessarily. That's because OSHA often incorporates ANSI's rules into its standards. Effectively, that makes them the law. Furthermore, disregarding ANSI's scissor lift rules can put you in violation of OSHA's "General Duty" clause. This clause states that employers must keep their workplace "free from recognized hazards." So, you must understand and follow both OSHA and ANSI's rules. Scissor lifts are safe and reliable - as long as they're used properly. But, when misused, scissor lifts can present serious safety hazards to workers. In fact, OSHA noted 10 deaths and 20 severe injuries involving scissor lift accidents in a single year. Knowing the top scissor lift hazards can help prevent deaths and injuries. OSHA classifies the following as the biggest preventable causes of scissor lift injuries and fatalities: Fall protection Stabilization Positioning Let's discuss these hazards in detail below. Scissor lifts must have guardrails to prevent workers from falling off the platform.

To ensure scissor lift guarding and fall protection, operators must: A common question is: Do you need a harness on a scissor lift? Answer: Not necessarily. To explain, let's focus on OSHA scissor lift harness requirements. OSHA states that scissor lift operators must be protected from falls from heights. But doing so only requires a guardrail that conforms to OSHA's standards. If that's the case, operators do not need a safety harness. But if the guardrail isn't up to par, then a harness is required. Another common question is: Can you use a ladder on a scissor lift? Answer: No. Using a ladder, planks, buckets, step stools, or any other device on the lift platform to extend your reach can cause you to fall over the guard rails. You might be wondering: Can a scissor lift fall over? Yes, if it's not properly stabilized. That's why scissor lift stability is essential for operator safety. Here's what they can do to prevent a scissor lift tip-over: Yes - provided the manufacturer allows it. To determine if that's the case, check the owner's manual. For instance, the operator's manual for a Genie GS-1930 scissor lift states: "Do not drive over 0.5 mph / 0.7 km/h with the platform raised." How you position your scissor lift has a lot to do with scissor lift safety. After all, scissor lift operators are exposed to hazards like crushing and electrocution. Take care when positioning your scissor lift to avoid crushing and electrocution hazards This is why operators should be cautious when: To prevent electrocution, it's recommended to: Yes, you do. According to OSHA's scissor lift certification requirements, you need scissor lift safety training from a qualified trainer. Operators must be trained and authorized before using a scissor lift If you don't have the resources or the desire to conduct scissor lift training in-house, you can always outsource it to a reputable training center. If you're conducting in-house scissor lift training, ensure your training follows OSHA's guidance, including: Awareness of hazards and how to handle them: This includes electrical, fall, falling object hazards, along with any other relevant workplace hazards Procedures for proper operation: This includes how to operate the scissor lift, weight capacity limits, and how to handle any materials used on the platform Inspection and maintenance: This includes noting any defects as well as how to maintain the scissor lift Refresher training: This should happen when there are changes in the workplace, the type of scissor lift, or when the operator displays inadequate knowledge of safe practices You can read the full text of OSHA's scissor lift training standards here, here, and here. Besides OSHA's scissor lift rules, you'll also need to incorporate ANSI's updated scissor lift standards into your training. We'll cover that below. In December 2019, ANSI updated the A92 standard for aerial lifts, including scissor lifts. What does the update mean to you? If you're a scissor lift owner, user, supervisor, or operator, it means big changes to training and safety. ANSI's 2019 update to its scissor lift standards changes training requirements for owners, users, supervisors, operators, and maintenance personnel While there are quite a few changes, the main ones are: For a more detailed explanation, you can download Genie's "Updated Training Requirements for Safe Use and Operation of MEWPs in North America" white paper here. (Note: You'll need to enter your email address to download it.) Scissor lift maintenance is important for both operator safety and the longevity of the machine. Keeping on maintenance will grant you many benefits, including: Scissor lift maintenance should consist of both scissor lift inspections and preventative maintenance. Let's cover each. How often should you conduct scissor lift inspections? Answer: Inspect your scissor lift every day before use, at shift changes, and whenever a new operator starts using the machine. You must inspect your scissor lift before using it to find and fix any problems Doing so helps avoid putting employees and the machine in danger. Along with inspections before use, operators should also assess the lifts after use to verify the scissor lift's condition. These two aerial lift inspections allow the opportunity to resolve any problems before the next use.

Every manufacturer provides specific inspection items for their scissor lifts. So you should always consult the owner's manual to find out what those are. That said, most inspections will focus on: Other than inspections, you need to perform regular preventive maintenance and follow the required scissor lift safety rules. These inspections are based on the hours in operation. Regular scissor lift maintenance helps improve safety, extend equipment life, and save money A qualified equipment mechanic should inspect the scissor lift every 150 hours or 3 months, whichever comes first. Additionally, you'll need to perform an annual inspection no later than 13 months after the prior one was done.

Preventative maintenance checks should include: Additionally, you should keep a detailed history of the lift's maintenance records. That's it: The complete guide to scissor lift safety. Now we'd like to turn it over to you. Are you up to speed on ANSI's new scissor lift standards? Do you have any further questions on scissor lift safety? Please share with us in the comments section! 1 Climb into the scissor lift through the gate on the side rail. To enter the scissor lift, unhook the chains or open the gate on the side of the platform. Step on the base of the scissor lift and climb under the top rail to enter the machine. Once inside of the scissor lift, either close and lock the gate or reattach the chains back on to their corresponding hooks to secure the lift.[1] Some gates use a latch to lock the guard rail in place. If you can't open the door, look for a locking mechanism where the door meets the frame of the machine and flip it up to unlock it. Never operate a scissor lift without securing the gate on the side rail. 2 Put the key into the ignition to turn the lift on. Scissor lifts use a key to start the lift and turn it off. Take your key and insert it into the ignition next to the large red button on the control panel.



Turn the key to the right to turn the lift on. The control panel is the small box with the joystick inside of the lift.[2] Tip: Most operators and rental companies leave the key in the ignition when the lift is not being used. If you aren't sure where the key is, check the control panel first. Advertisement 3 Use the big red button to stop the machine at any time.

If you ever need to shut off the power to the lift or lose control of the joystick, press the large red button next to the key. This is the emergency shut off button, and pressing it will immediately cut the power to the battery.[3] If you need to restart the machine after using the emergency shut off button, simply pull the button out and use the key to restart the scissor lift. Advertisement 1 Flip the horizontal switch to the left to turn the hydraulics on.



There are 2 switches on the control panel. Find the horizontal switch that flips to the left and right. Set this switch to the left to turn the hydraulic system on and allow the scissor lift to move up and down.

On some scissor lifts, each switch position is labelled. On these lifts, flip the horizontal switch to the "Platform" or "Up/Down" position.[4] Tip: The horizontal switch can be set in the neutral position by flipping it to the middle. If you flip the switch to the right, you turn on the motor to move the wheels. Always check this switch before moving the joystick.

2 Use the vertical switch to set the speed of the lift to "slow." There is rarely a good reason to set the vertical switch to the "fast" setting, which is the up-position. To ensure that the machine raises and lowers slowly and remains under your control, flip the vertical switch to its lowest position.

On some lifts, this switch position will be labeled "slow." [5] You're more likely to have an accident or lose control of the lift if it's moving quickly. The fast setting is usually reserved for warehouse workers that only use a scissor lift to access higher shelves in a specific location where the lift doesn't need to be driven. 3 Push the joystick forward to raise the scissor lift. With the switch in the left-most position, push the joystick forward to raise the platform. If you want to stop moving the platform, move the stick to the center to stop raising the platform. Alternatively, you can release the joystick and allow it to pop back to the neutral position.[6] The joysticks on scissor lifts will almost always flip back to the center so that the lift stops moving when you release the joystick. When going up, stay alert and look above and around you to ensure that you don't strike anything while moving up. Make sure that nobody is standing nearby the lift while you're raising it. 4 Pull the joystick back to lower the lift back down. To lower the lift, simply pull the stick back towards you. The platform will continue to lower so long as you keep the joystick held back. To stop moving down, either push the joystick to the center position or release the handle.[7] Before you move a lift down, look over the rails to make sure that it's safe. The rails fold on one another as a scissor lift lowers, and a person may be injured if they're touching the lift when it starts moving. As you move down, look down to keep an eye out for people passing by. Do not lower a scissor lift if someone is within 20 feet (6.1 m) of the lift. Advertisement 1 Lower the scissor lift all the way down before driving it. Before you drive anywhere, lower the lift as low as it can go. Your scissor lift will be more likely to tip over if you drive it while the platform is raised. Never drive the lift if the platform is raised. Depending on where you live, it is usually a safety violation to move a scissor lift if the platform is raised. 2 Set the horizontal switch all the way to the right.

To shut off the hydraulic power and shift the lift into drive mode, identify the horizontal switch on your control panel. Flip this switch all the way to the right. If the controls are labeled, this position is usually labeled "drive." [8] You cannot raise or lower the platform while the lift is in drive mode, so always lower the platform before using this switch. 3 Set the vertical switch to the "slow" position to stay safe. When you drive the lift, the speed of the lift is controlled by the vertical switch. Flip this switch all the way to the lowest position to ensure that you maintain control of the lift while you're driving it.[9] The "fast" position is usually used to navigate rows in a warehouse where the lift doesn't need to go left or right. 4 Push the joystick forward or backward to drive the lift. With the horizontal switch flipped all the way to the right, push the joystick forward to drive forward. If you want to go in reverse, pull the joystick backwards. Always wait for the lift to come to a complete stop before swapping between forward and reverse.[10] Tip:

Newer scissor lift joysticks are calibrated to be sensitive to how hard you push or pull it when the stick is in drive mode. If you barely move the stick, you will move a few inches at a time. If you push the stick all the way in either direction, you will move as fast as your speed setting allows. 5 Use the toggle on the top of the joystick to move left or right. If you want to change directions, press the toggle switch on top of the joystick with your thumb. If you want to turn left, press the left side of the switch down. If you want to turn right, press the right side of the switch down. Hold the switch in place to continue rotating the lift as you drive.[11] Scissor lifts can't turn at sharp angles; it usually takes multiple control inputs to turn the lift around sharp corners. 6 Move slowly and take breaks between movements to stay safe. Scissor lifts can be kind of awkward to drive, especially if you aren't used to using them. To stay safe while driving a scissor lift, only use one control input at a time and carefully monitor the speed and direction of the lift as it moves. Release the joystick in between inputs to allow the scissor lift to stop moving before changing directions. Never change directions without letting the lift come to a complete stop first.[12] While driving the lift, always look at the ground where you're driving the lift to watch out for obstructions or changes in the texture of the floor. If you're outside, look up once every 2-3 seconds to make sure that you aren't at risk of running into a powerline or tree. If you move the joystick back and forth while changing directions at the same time, you may knock the scissor lift over or fall off of the platform. In addition, you may run into an obstruction or hole if you move too quickly, which can disrupt the lift or knock you off. Advertisement 1 Wear a safety harness and connect it to the strap on the platform. Get a safety harness from a construction supply store or a scissor lift manufacturer. Put the harness on and clip it in the center and on the sides to secure it. Pull the straps on each side to tighten it to your frame. On the floor of the platform, look for a retractable length of nylon with a hook on the end. Clip this hook to your safety harness to stay safe if you fall.[13] The nylon strap will extend 6 feet (1.8 m) before locking, so you have plenty of room to move around on the platform. 2 Monitor the battery or fuel gauge to ensure you don't get stuck. There is a gauge next to the switches on your control panel that measures how much fuel or electricity is left. Monitor this gauge carefully while operating your lift to ensure that you don't run out of fuel or electricity while you're raised up in the air.[14] If you do run out of energy while the platform is raised, you'll need someone else to charge the battery or fill the tank for you before you can get back down. (If this isn't practical there should be a manual pressure relief valve on the scissor lift allowing it to be lowered regardless of battery or fuel status - consult the manual or manufacturer for this.) The vast majority of scissor lifts are electric. 3 Operate the scissor lift on firm, flat surfaces. Never use a scissor lift on grass, gravel, or unstable ground. Scissor lifts tend to become quite unstable if they're on an uneven surface, which is a serious safety hazard. Only use a scissor lift on asphalt, concrete, or hardwood surfaces.[15] Tip: It is usually illegal to operate a scissor lift on an uneven surface. 4 Inspect the scissor lift before using it to check for wear and tear. Before using a scissor lift, always walk around the exterior of the machine. Inspect each wheel to look for punctures or tears. Check each tire to ensure that your wheels are properly inflated. Check the rails that lift the platform for cracks or obstructions to ensure that the machine is safe to operate.[16] If you're unsure if a scissor lift is safe to use, have a certified mechanic inspect the machine before using it. 5 Get certified as a scissor lift operator if you want to really stay safe. If you're operating a scissor lift for your employer, they are legally required to train you on how to use the scissor lift.

If you're renting a scissor lift, consider taking a safety class in your area to earn an operator certification. While this certification isn't normally required to use a scissor lift, it's a good way to ensure that you don't make a serious mistake when using the machine.[17] Operator certifications for scissor lifts usually take less than a week to earn. In some states and countries, you are required to take a class on scissor lifts before you are allowed to operate one. However, these safety certifications are optional everywhere else. While it changes depending on where you live, scissor lifts are usually considered to be a type of scaffolding. Standing on scaffolding does not typically require a certification.

[18] Advertisement Add New Question Question What signs should be erected when in use? At minimum, a "Warning, Mobile plant operating in area" sign should be the minimum. Ideally, pedestrian exclusion areas or permanent floor markings should be used, but are not always possible. If available, a spotter should be used where there are hazardous obstructions at ground or overhead level - e.g. power lines, manhole grates, etc. Question Can you move a scissor lift by walking alongside it? You usually can by detaching the control console from the scissor lift frame - though this is usually only done when performing high risk maneuvers where standing in the lift would be too dangerous - e.g. when driving the scissor lift on steel ramps to be transported by truck or trailer. When this is done the most care must be taken to stand as far away as possible from the scissor lift as the controls will allow. Move the controls slowly, smoothly, and carefully. Utilizing the aid of a spotter is also ideal if possible.

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