

10 Tips To Limit Wear On A Tractor Clutch

Wear is the enemy of any part on a tractor. That is why drivers of a tractor should avoid anything that could increase wear of the clutch when driving the tractor. Here are 10 tips that can help you save wear and tear on a tractor clutch.

1. Do not put your foot is on the clutch pedal when it shouldn't be, which can wear out the clutch prematurely. Riding the clutch usually means that your foot is resting on the clutch — not that the clutch is being actively depressed, which means that the friction material doesn't make proper contact with the flywheel, which can cause the clutch disk to spin faster than the flywheel, thus wearing out the clutch faster. Using tractor front end loader can involve lots of clutch use by moving forward & backward with load. Do not ride the clutch or halfway clutch with acceleration when doing bucket works. In general, your foot should only be on the clutch pedal when you're changing gears (and during slow-speed manoeuvres). At all other times, your foot should be completely off the clutch pedal.
2. Periodically adjust the free play of the clutch pedal. The clutch pedal clearance between the release lever and bearing determines play and clearance vary as the tractor is used. So, generally, play increases at the beginning of use, but decreases over time. When free play reaches zero the clutch will begin to slip because the release bearing is turning at all times. If this is not adjusted, then the bearing will overheat and may get stuck due to wear and scorching of the clutch disc.
3. Quick disengage, slow reengage. Depress the pedal quickly to disengage the clutch and return the pedal slowly to re-engage it.
4. Lubricate clutch release bearings. Identify the clutch release bearing and lubricate it every time you change the oil of your tractor.
5. Don't "dump" the clutch. Don't use the clutch too quickly, put the tractor under load, or dump it to rock the tractor if it is stuck. Ease the clutch, do not dump it and engage the differential lock of the tractor is stuck.
6. Keep the disc off the flywheel if storing a tractor for long periods. To protect the flywheel, place a wooden block under the footboard to keep the clutch disc off the flywheel when storing the tractor. This precaution will prevent the disc from rusting to the flywheel.
7. Don't depress the clutch when you are not in the driver's seat. Depressing the clutch of a tractor from any other place than the driver's seat is a safety hazard.
8. Don't bypass the clutch safety switch.
9. Keep the clutch disc free of oil and condensation. Oil and water can cause the clutch disc to slip and wear. So regularly inspect the rear engine seal and transmission input shaft for oil leakage.
10. Replace all clutch components when servicing. Don't just service one component of the clutch; service all of its components while you have the tractor split. Areas to check include the flywheel, clutch release bearing, clutch free play, and clutch disc.



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