

Q: What is the minimum age for operating a forklift Truck

A: The Health & Safety Executives Approved Code of Practice & Guidance (L117) gives clear guidance on selecting operators & Trainees.

Paragraph 49 States Take care when selecting potential lift-truck operators. They should be:

- Reasonably fit, both physically and mentally, to safely control and operate lift trucks, with the learning ability and potential to become competent operators;
- Reliable, with a responsible attitude to their work;
- Over the minimum school-leaving age (16), except in ports, where they must be at least 18 years old, unless they are undergoing a suitable course of training, properly supervised by a competent person.
- Children under 16 should never operate lift trucks.

For more information, look at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/youngpeople/index.htm>