

## Forklift Mast Chain

Forklift Mast Chain - Leaf Chains have several functions and are regulated by ANSI. They are used for low-speed pulling, for tension linkage and forklift masts, and as balancers between head and counterweight in certain machine devices. Leaf chains are sometimes even referred to as Balance Chains.

### Construction and Features

Leaf chains are actually steel chains utilizing a simple pin construction and link plate. The chain number refers to the pitch and the lacing of the links. The chains have specific features such as high tensile strength for every section area, that allows the design of smaller devices. There are B- and A+ type chains in this particular series and both the BL6 and AL6 Series include the same pitch as RS60. Finally, these chains cannot be powered with sprockets.

### Selection and Handling

Comparably, in roller chains, all of the link plates have higher fatigue resistance because of the compressive stress of press fits, whereas in leaf chains, just two outer plates are press fit. The tensile strength of leaf chains is high and the utmost acceptable tension is low. If handling leaf chains it is essential to check with the manufacturer's manual so as to ensure the safety factor is outlined and use safety measures always. It is a better idea to exercise extreme caution and utilize extra safety guards in functions where the consequences of chain failure are severe.

Higher tensile strength is a direct correlation to the utilization of much more plates. For the reason that the utilization of more plates does not enhance the utmost acceptable tension directly, the number of plates may be limited. The chains need regular lubrication because the pins link directly on the plates, producing a very high bearing pressure. Making use of a SAE 30 or 40 machine oil is frequently suggested for nearly all applications. If the chain is cycled more than 1000 times each day or if the chain speed is more than 30m per minute, it would wear really quick, even with continuous lubrication. Hence, in either of these conditions using RS Roller Chains will be much more suitable.

The AL-type of chains must just be utilized under particular situations like when wear is not a big problem, when there are no shock loads, the number of cycles does not exceed one hundred on a daily basis. The BL-type will be better suited under different situations.

If a chain with a lower safety factor is selected then the stress load in components would become higher. If chains are utilized with corrosive elements, then they can become fatigued and break rather easily. Doing frequent maintenance is really important when operating under these kinds of situations.

The outer link or inner link kind of end link on the chain will determine the shape of the clevis. Clevis connectors or also known as Clevis pins are made by manufacturers, but the user typically provides the clevis. A wrongly made clevis can reduce the working life of the chain. The strands should be finished to length by the manufacturer. Check the ANSI standard or get in touch with the producer.