

FORKLIFT HAND SIGNALS

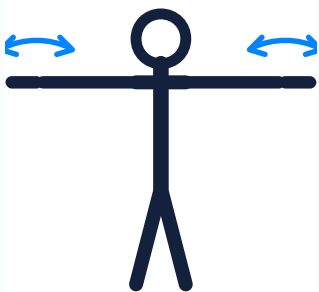
Site-use set — not an OSHA forklift standard: agree on it, train it, and validate it for your operation. Signals are a supplemental control — separate pedestrians and trucks first.

Gray-bordered tiles 1–9: adapted from the OSHA crane Standard Method (App. A, Subpart CC, 29 CFR 1926) · **Amber tiles 10–12: workplace conventions**



1. Stop

Arm out to the side, palm down — swing back and forth



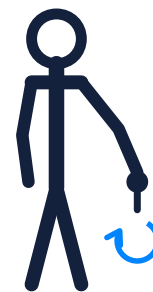
2. Emergency stop

Both arms out, palms down — swing back and forth



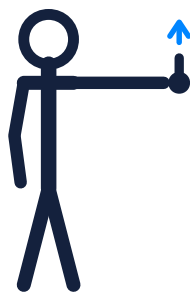
3. Raise the forks

Forearm up, index finger up — small circles



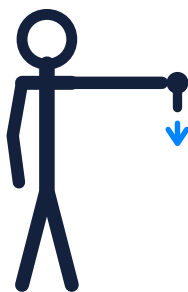
4. Lower the forks

Arm and finger point down — small circles



5. Tilt mast back

Arm out to the side — thumb up, fingers closed



6. Tilt mast forward

Arm out to the side — thumb down, fingers closed



7. Move slowly

A hand placed in front of the action signal



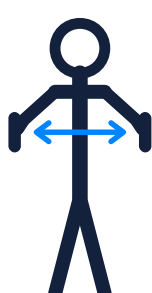
8. Travel — indicated direction

Push arm in the direction of travel — train paired with 'Back up'



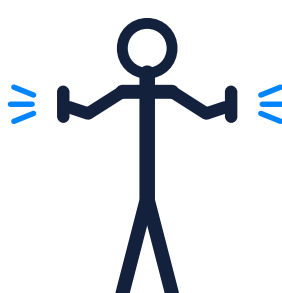
9. Dog everything

Hands held together at the waist — hold everything



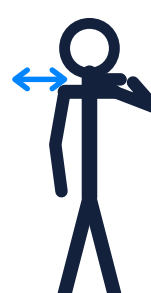
10. This far to go

Palms facing — gap shows distance left



11. Back up

Palms out — push away from the body



12. Stop engine

Flat hand drawn across the throat

"Tilt mast forward" — the federal limit (29 CFR 1910.178(o)(6)): no forward tilt with the load engaging means elevated except to pick up a load; an elevated load tilts forward only in deposit position over a rack or stack.

THE 6 SPOTTER RULES

- 1. One signaler at a time** — one designated person directs the operator.
- 2. Anyone can give the stop** — stop / emergency stop are valid from anybody.
- 3. The operator's directions** — signal in the driver's frame, not your mirror.

- 4. Lose sight, lose motion** — can't see the spotter? The truck stops.
- 5. Stand clear of pinch zones** — never between truck or load and wall, rack, or dock edge.
- 6. Agree before you move** — route, signaler, and hold point set before rolling.



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FAQ & spotter protocol

Best-practice chart adapted from the OSHA crane Standard Method (29 CFR 1926 Subpart CC, App. A) and OSHA's advisory Powered Industrial Trucks guidance. OSHA neither requires nor approves any forklift signal chart. Not legal advice. Free to print and share within your operation. Tires, wheels & parts: verify exact size, construction & fitment before ordering — check the sidewall and data plate, or call us and we'll help you verify the right fit. 1 (866) 313-2180 · sales@forklifttire.com