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# ATV Arch

Owner's Manual

*A forwarding arch for small to medium logs*

*You will find this implement handy, for low impact forwarding of logs. It works best behind a 4-wheel drive ATV, because of their inherent mobility, but will of course work behind a small tractor or pick-up truck. It is self-limiting in the size of logs, to 18 or 20 inches in diameter, and given the power source (ATV) most likely limited to logs 16 to 26 feet in length. (If the logs are short, up to 10-11', they can be fully suspended and can be up to 24" in diameter) Standard tires are a low-pressure floatation tire with a maximum load of 1100 lbs., or optional higher load tires, are rated at just over a ton.*



## Use

The arch is a steel structure with minimal working parts. Equipped with an 1 7/8, or 2 inch coupler; 2000 lb. hubs, and spindles; a 3200 lb. 2 speed winch, a 25' 3/8 in choker, and 2 side release snatch blocks that direct the line forward, and then back out the bottom of the arch.

While an ATV is very well suited for travel and work in the forest, four wheel drive models have a wide turning circle and are difficult to back into position over logs with all the obstacles inherent in the forest. For this reason, and to complement the lightweight of the ATV ARCH, there are two handles placed in just the right position for lifting the arch for ease of turning or to place over logs. The actual weight is near #160, but try for yourself to see if it doesn't feel like #80. (The average of a hundred random guesses).

The ATV ARCH is self-limiting in size to lifting logs that are a maximum of 20" in diameter, unless they are shorter than 10 or 12 feet. As the logs get larger, not only will the second, lower gear in the winch be handy;

but the second choker bell, mounted on the arch itself, for hooking the choker into to double the power and roll the log, will be of use.



## Reminders

- Keep standard tires properly inflated, if heavy loads are expected, raise the air pressure accordingly
- Grease winch and pack hubs, and always oil the input shaft bushing !!!
- **BREAK IN THE CHOKER!** When the choker is new, it doesn't want to stay wrapped around the small winch spool. For the first dozen or so lifts, take a little extra time to pull all the slack out of the winch as you bring in the line before it becomes tight with the log.
- Never pull all of the choker line out of the winch; always leave a couple winds of line in the winch spool, so that the line doesn't break out the welded end.
- Watch the winch parts so that they don't come loose, especially the nut for the ratcheting device. If this comes loose, there are some parts that may be lost. If that happens, contact FFP for free replacement parts and a diagram of installation.
- Brace yourself when winching in a log. First take out the slack as you bring in the line, then grab onto the arch with your free hand to ease your work.
- Two speeds on the winch are available by just pulling out the gear change lever and pulling the crank up or down. Doubling your power and rolling the log is accomplished by hooking the choker nubbin into the arch mounted bell, rather than the one on the choker itself. Experiment, you may find it handy.

## Care and Maintenance

Daily, check the coupler, winch, and snatch blocks; grease the winch cogs and oil the input shaft bushing just below the handle. Visually, keep tire pressures up, and the winch line unsnarled. Annually, or after a period of heavy use, pack the hubs with grease.

***Please call with any questions or concerns!***

