AKRO-MILS®

Platform Truck Selection Guide

With all the styles, sizes and options available for platform trucks, it can be a challenge to choose the right one for your application. This guide will help you through the process by providing you with the basic information needed to select a cart to meet your needs, including details on construction and other features. For more assistance, call Akro-Mils Customer Service at **800-253-2467**.

Step 1: Select Deck Material:

What will you be transporting with your deck? Where?

Structural Foam (Steel Reinforced):

Recyclable plastic decks are lightweight, durable, quiet, non-skid and easy to clean. These structural foam decks offer a consistent finish, resist damage from chemicals and weather exposure, and won't splinter, rust, chip or rot. Structural foam tends to be the most expensive deck material.

Hardwood:

Kiln-dried tongue-and-groove hardwood decks are the standard in material handling and transport applications. Finished wood offers a high-end, quality look and is economically priced. Hardwood absorbs shocks and is the most forgiving material if something is dropped on it.

Steel:

Steel is the strongest deck material – offering top performance and a high weight capacity. The smooth surface is very easy to clean or sanitize. The powder-coat painting process provides a durable finish that resists chipping, scratches and rust. The steel's color also can easily be customized.

Step 2: Select Deck Size & Accessories:

How large of a deck will you need to transport your work?
Standard sizes: 24″ x 48″, 27″ x 54″, 30″ x 60″ and 36″ x 72″. (Not all sizes available on all platform types.)

Will you be stacking odd size items that might require additional rails?
Side rails and center rails help stabilize flat items such as drywall or plywood.

Will you need to be able to move the truck from either end?
Carts are available with handles at one or both ends.

Would other accessories enhance your productivity?
Consider: Corner Bumpers, Continuous Bumpers, Solid or Expanded Metal Shelf.


Corner Bumpers


Continuous Bumpers


Solid Metal Shelf


Expanded Metal Shelf

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Step 3: Caster & Wheel Options:

Consider the environment where you will being using this platform truck. Rough or smooth floor surface? Chemicals or oils on the flooring? Is noise an issue? Heavy or light loads?

Customize the platform truck's casters for noise control, load capacity, floor protection or surface conditions. We utilize bolt-on casters, which are easily replaced if damaged.

Caster Weight Capacities

Caster Weight Capacities (Lbs.)*	Caster Diameter (In.)						
Caster	10	8	6	5	4	3.5	3
Mold-On Rubber, Blue Elastic	3200	2200	1600	1400	1200	–	–
Phenolic	14,000	4200	3600	3600	–	–	–
Pneumatic	1500	1200	–	–	–	–	–
Polyolefin	–	3200	2600	1800	1000	–	900
Polyurethane	8800	4200	3600	3600	–	–	–
Semi-Pneumatic	2200	–	–	–	–	–	–
Steel	–	4200	3600	3600	1200	–	1000
Thermoplastic	–	600‡	–	400‡	–	–	–
Gray Non-Marking Rubber	–	–	2000	–	–	1000	–
Easy-Roll	–	–	2000	–	–	–	–

*Based on evenly distributed load on 4 casters. ‡Light-duty.
All 2" wide casters, 4 x 2, 5 x 2, 6 x 2, and 8 x 2: Top plate = 4" x 4.5"; bolt pattern slotted 3" x 3" to 2.625" x 3.625".

Questions?

Contact Akro-Mils Customer Service at **800-253-2467**

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Standard Casters & Wheels	Description		Floor Surface				Floor Conditions			Other Factors to Consider						
			Asphalt / Brick / Ceramic Tile	Carpet / Linoleum	Concrete	Steel Grate / Dock Plate	Chemicals	Debris / Metal Shavings	Slippery / Wet / Steam	Non-Marking / Floor Protection	Noise	Cushion Load	Impact Resistance	Caster Weight Capacity	Rolling Ease	Standing Loads / Long Term Storage
Mold-On Rubber, Blue Elastic	Designed for medium to heavy loads, these wheels with cushioned rubber tread are quiet and provide good floor protection.		■	X	■	◪	X	X	◪	◪	■	■	■	◪	◪	X
Phenolic	For demanding applications, a less expensive wheel that offers high strength, is non-marking, non-conductive and protects floors.		X	◪	■	X	◪	X	X	◪	◪	X	◪	■	■	■
Polyolefin	A heavy-duty, lightweight, non-marking plastic wheel that resists most chemicals and oils, and has excellent impact resistance.		X	◪	■	X	■	◪	■	◪	◪	X	■	◪	■	X
Polyurethane	Chemically bonded to a metal core, polyurethane wheels are more durable than other materials, deliver excellent mobility, a cushioned ride and long life when subjected to heavy loads.		■	◪	■	◪	◪	◪	◪	■	■	◪	■	■	◪	X
Pneumatic, Semi-Pneumatic	Air-filled for excellent shock protection, floor protection and easy operation over rough surfaces.		■	X	■	■	X	X	◪	◪	■	■	■	◪	X	X
Steel	A good choice for warehouses and manufacturing operations, and where noise or floor protection are not a concern. Metal wheels offer the least rolling resistance.		X	X	■	X	◪	■	◪	X	X	X	■	■	■	■
Thermoplastic, Gray Non-Marking Rubber	Soft gray rubber wheel provides excellent floor protecton and a cushioned ride while resisting chemicals, acids, oils and caustic substances.		■	◪	■	◪	■	◪	■	■	■	■	■	◪	◪	X
Easy-Roll	Thermoplastic rubber with superior precision bearings. Non-marking wheel rolls effortlessly over most surfaces; ideal for indoor use such as offices or hospitals.		■	■	■	◪	■	◪	◪	■	■	■	■	◪	◪	X

■ = Excellent ◪ = OK X = Not Recommended