

An underestimated class of earthmoving machines



The advantages of crawler loaders

Over the last couple of years the crawler loaders came a bit out of sight. That is astonishing as the machine has a couple of advantages that can make it a good substitute for wheel loader or track excavator applications. Of course these machines make only sense for some specific kind of jobs. But in these jobs the tracked loaders can deliver a great performance at reasonable cost.

What are the main advantages of tracked loaders?

- Low ground pressure
- Good maneuverability in confined work places
- Versatility for various jobs
- High gradeability up to 30%
- Ability to work on very wet or icy ground
- Ability to work with a ripper
- Ability to work on very hot areas

The low ground pressure allows working with a crawler loader on wet and soft ground. With the LGP version (low ground pressure) with wide track shoes the loader has less ground pressure than a child's foot. Even on snow and ice a tracked loader can get a good grip.



Liebherr Tracked Loader LR611M

Due the hydrostatic drive the loader can turn on place.

Depending on machine and bucket size a full turn in less than 6m diameter is possible.

Crawler loaders can be used to deposit material much higher than wheel loaders or standard track excavators. The gradeability up to 30% makes it possible to amass material to little mountains.

If equipped with a ripper the machine can be used for loosening of hard soil. The penetration force is much better than of a wheeled loader. Loading and loosening of hard material such as clay or even clinker and compacted waste is possible.

Last but not least tracked loaders can work in hot areas such as steel mills. For some machines is a steel-mill package available to prepare the machine for this hard job. Even for jobs in vessel discharging crawler loaders are an appropriate tool.

Late models have a bucket and loader frame kick-off function and a joystick control. These features make working with a tracked loader very fast and effective. For forestry jobs the machines can be equipped with a winch, for special earthmoving jobs a multi-purpose bucket (4x1) is available.



Crawler Loader CAT 963C

The main manufacturers for crawler loaders are Caterpillar, Liebherr and John Deere.