Will Skid Steer Attachments Fit on a Tractor?



Tractors and skid steers are both incredibly versatile and powerful pieces of equipment. Designed with some of the most grueling projects in mind, these machines can tackle almost anything that your project throws at you. However, if you're looking to use a tractor, yet need a skid steer attachment to improve your efficiency, you may find yourself at a loss for how to proceed. Read on to learn whether skid steer attachments fit on a tractor and the importance of understanding their capabilities.

The Differences Between Skid Steers and Tractors

Before we can discuss the compatibility of skid steer attachments with tractors, it's important to understand what makes the two machines different. While skid steers and tractors can complete very similar tasks, there's a stark difference in both their weight and power. Skid steers are significantly heavier, making the horsepower generated by the hydraulics much higher than that of the tractor. On the other hand, tractors are less powerful but are more versatile and dynamic.

How Each Utilize Attachments

When it comes to attachments specifically, skid steers primarily use front-facing devices, while tractors have both front (if equipped with a loader) and back attachment capabilities. For those who regularly use tractors, this is a great way to add diversity to your machine and get two jobs done at the same time. However, not all attachment products are best suited for back-end use. So, that's something to consider when making your choice.

Are They Cross-Compatible?

As far as whether skid steer attachments fit on a tractor, the general answer is yes. One of the core perks of owning these machines is the interchangeable nature of their attachments. In fact, using skid steer attachments on your tractor can even help save you money, as you won't need to purchase exclusively tractor-designed products.

Still, using your skid steer attachments on your tractor can't happen unless the loader is equipped with a skid steer type quick tach or without a few adjustments. Because the hook-ups on skid steers and tractors loaders may be different, you may require a skid steer quick attach adapter for your loader to ensure a proper connection. The tractor model you own may also need auxiliary hydraulics to properly power and control hydraulic driven attachments. If a hydraulic attachment will be used, it is important to understand the GPM of the tractor and the GPM requirement for the attachment to have it function properly.

Since the back linkage on tractors is different from that on a skid steer as well, you won't be able to use a skid steer attachment on this side. Instead, focus on the front of your tractor. Make sure that it has the lifting capacity for both the attachment and the weight of materials. Then, install a quick attach adapter kit if required for optimal compatibility. This way, you can guarantee your tractor will function well for your desired application.

If you're looking to purchase the best attachments for your skid steer or tractor, McLaren is here to take your

call. From skid steer mowers and plows to augers and dozer blades, we carry it all so that you always have what you need to get through a job. Our dedication to innovation ensures that every model is state-of-the-art and high performing to accomplish even the toughest of objectives. Contact us today at (800) 836-0040 to learn more about our products or request a quote.