

LIFT MORE – Better. Faster. Safer.

9 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

HOW TO CHOOSE  
**THE RIGHT**  
TRUCK-  
MOUNTED  
CRANE



HOW TO CHOOSE  
**THE RIGHT**  
**TRUCK-**  
**MOUNTED**  
**CRANE**

# where to start?

A truck-mounted crane is a big investment – you want to be sure you're getting exactly the right equipment for your needs. And with so many models and options to choose from, it can be a confusing process. To make it easier, you can start by asking yourself these questions:



LIFT MORE – Better. Faster. Safer.

# BEGIN BY ASKING YOURSELF THESE NINE QUESTIONS:

- 1 What is my truck's GVW + why is it important?
- 2 How will I use my crane?
- 3 What's the maximum crane reach I need?
- 4 What maximum capacity do I need at that reach?
- 5 What tools do I need to customize my crane?
- 6 What's the best place to mount my crane?
- 7 Do I need crane remote controls?
- 8 Are my operators licensed for the crane I've chosen?
- 9 Do my operators have the training they need?



LIFT MORE – Better. Faster. Safer.

# FIRST, KNOW YOUR BASICS

## 1 What is my truck's GVW and why is it important?

Knowing your truck's Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) is step one when choosing a crane. It determines operator licensing needs, which cranes you can install on your vehicle, how much weight your truck can carry.

Bigger payloads can often mean bigger profits. Here's an example: If your truck weighs 18,000 lb., you can add a body and crane that weigh 17,000 lb., bringing the weight up to 35,000 lb. If your GVW is 60,000, that leaves 25,000 lb. for payload.

The right match between crane and truck ensures you have the most effective and profitable way to deliver your payload, and that everything safely meets legal requirements.

Whether you have a vehicle or are looking to purchase, getting expert advice about combining crane models, options and truck specs before you buy can avoid pitfalls and optimize profitability and performance.

## 2 How will I use my crane?

Choosing a crane is all about choosing the right equipment for the job to maximize productivity and safety.

Are you lifting concrete forms, roofing, pipes or specific materials? Are you delivering to industrial, commercial or residential sites? Does your work involve simple lifting, pinpoint accuracy or challenging placement? Do you need close in power, long reach, or both? Do you need pallet forks, a rotator, a grapple saw or other specialty attachments? Wireless or cable remote controls? Maybe you work near high voltage power lines and would benefit from an early warning alert system.



## KNOW YOUR NEEDS

HOW TO CHOOSE  
**THE RIGHT**  
**TRUCK-**  
**MOUNTED**  
**CRANE**

### 3 What's the maximum crane reach I need?

Short, long, or in between? Knowing how far your crane needs to extend is just as important as what it's lifting. For instance, your business may require you to deliver drywall eight storeys up, or to drop your materials beside the truck.

### 4 What's the maximum capacity I need at that reach?

Again, this all depends on what you're lifting and delivering, and where.

Crane capacity usually increases the closer you get to the base of the crane and the truck. If your business is mostly about working close in, you may want a crane that delivers a power boost when you need it most. But if you're buying a crane for reach, the big question is, what is the maximum weight I need to lift at full extension?

# reach + capacity



## KNOW YOUR OPTIONS

# tools

### 5 What tools do I need to customize my crane?

The crane tip tools you choose to customize your crane play a big role in its set up. They also guide the controls you'll need for proper use and precise load handling.

Choosing the right attachments and options for your crane, and your business will make a world of difference when it comes to efficiency, productivity, precision, and profits. And there are many tools to choose from – rotators to winches, hydraulic drywall forks, personnel baskets, grapple saws and more. You can also add additional safety features like high voltage proximity alert systems to maximize safety around power lines.



WINCH



ROTATOR



GRAPPLE SAW



# mounting, controls, licensing + training

## KNOW YOUR OPERATORS' NEEDS

### 6 What's the ideal place to mount my crane?

Where to mount your truck-mounted crane is an important question. Improved loading and maximum stability are all about weight distribution, which depends a lot on the kind of payload you carry and the crane's ideal position on your truck. For instance, if your payload includes poles that extend beyond the back of the deck, you'll need to install your crane behind the front cab. A payload like drywall may benefit from a rear install, close to the axles, to provide greater flexibility for on-site deliveries.

Choose an experienced dealer that can provide a qualified analysis of your weight distribution, accurately calculate stability and axle loads and is knowledgeable about different provincial regulations.



### 7 Do I need crane remote controls?

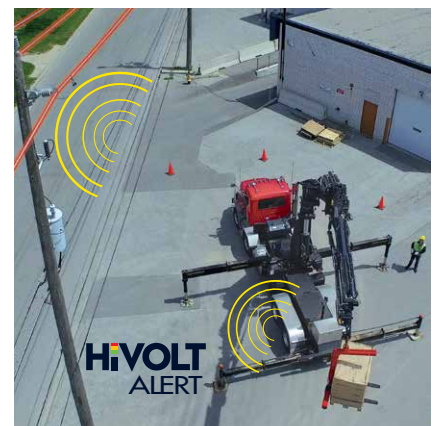
Crane remote controls add safety and profitability. The best of them feature simultaneous movements, rapid load cycles, high performance and low lifetime cost. And smart functions that provide flexibility to up productivity in different situations. The system you choose depends on the way you work – an experienced dealer can help determine the right remote control system for you.

### 8 Are my operators licensed for the crane I've chosen?

Regulations covering truck type and overall weight vary by province, and often by area. Your operators' license class determines which trucks they can operate, which may affect your crane choice. An experienced dealer has the current information to configure your truck and crane to meet all regulatory guidelines so you can get down to business – no surprises.

### 9 Do my operators have the training they need?

Your truck-mounted crane is key to your productivity and business. So proper crane training is always a smart decision. It protects your investment and surrounding site from damage, and keeps the operator and others nearby safe from harm, such as when working near high voltage lines. Crane training is required by law and varies province-to-province.



**NEED MORE  
EXPERT HELP?**

**Call us anytime  
888 799 4422**

**EXPERIENCED  
HELP IS JUST A  
PHONE CALL OR  
EMAIL AWAY**

**we have  
answers**

Choosing the right truck-mounted crane for your business is an important decision. And building the best truck-mounted crane package for your needs probably needs a little knowledgeable help.

That's why our experts at Atlas Polar are here. Atlas Polar introduced the first articulated truck-mounted crane to Canada – a HIAB – in 1953. We've focused on them, and other truck-mounted materials handling solutions, like Moffett forklifts and Multilift hooklifts ever since.

Atlas Polar is HIAB in Canada. We're proud of our brands and our shared commitment to safety, productivity, performance, innovation, and, mostly, providing the best possible products, service, and support to our customers.

It's important to be informed. We've designed this guide to help you choose the truck-mounted crane package that's right for you and your business. Of course, we're always on hand with top technical expertise and advice, and to answer any other questions you may have. And we'd be happy to have you visit us to experience them in person!



**Atlas Polar**  
IT'S ALL ABOUT QUALITY™

**Atlas Polar Company Ltd.**

60 Northline Rd. . Toronto ON . M4B 3E5 . Canada

888 799 4422 . 416 751 7740

info@atlaspolar.com . atlaspolar.com

