

## Boomlift / Manlift

Used Boom Lift Sunnyvale - In terms of popular aerial machinery, the boom lift is one of the most recognizable. Also referred to as elevating work platforms, aerial devices, cherry pickers, mobile elevating work platforms and aerial work platforms, boom lifts are capable of completing jobs at higher elevations easily and efficiently. There are many places to find boom lifts at work including warehouses, contractors, various companies and in retail stores. Workers need to remain safe as they access locations at higher altitudes. There is a wide variety of boom lift models to choose from. Many models are capable of being operated by a single individual. Boom lifts are beloved in the agricultural and orchard industries, used to harvest fruit without requiring a separate ladder, they keep workers much safer since there is not climbing or bucket balancing involved. Since ladders require even, solid ground for setting them up safely, they can be unreliable in the agricultural industry. Relying on a boom lift is an easier and safer way to reach tree tops.

**Gaining Access Over Obstacles** Boom lifts make working over top of obstacle much easier as many models have been engineered to travel up and over items. Having the capacity to reach an object even when you are unable to maneuver the equipment directly underneath has a variety of applications including window cleaning, telephone pole and line installation and service, fixing overhead cables and numerous other industries. The articulated boom lift is an example that has numerous joints enabling it to bend over or under items. The articulated boom sections can move independently to grant operators access to many locations. Famous for their tight turning radius, articulated booms offer an ideal solution for narrow hallways and storage facilities. The dual-fuel boom lifts provide service in both exterior and interior locations. Diesel models are used outside while electric boom lifts are implemented in interior locations.

**Articulating Boom Lifts** Articulated boom lifts are commonly found on construction sites and used in maintenance applications. These machines are often seen servicing overhead wires and power lines. Firefighters even rely on them and some models feature water cannons. Telescoping sections are available on certain models to extend reach to the maximum. There are articulating boom lifts complete with an additional jib that allows the platform to extend an extra 6 feet in any direction. These boom lifts go by the nickname of "spiders," since their legs can support the entire machine on steep or difficult terrain. Smaller units called interior articulating boom lifts are capable of fitting through doorways, making them valuable in retail, warehousing and storage facilities. Interior models are typically electric boom lifts due to their lack of dangerous carbon monoxide exhaust and quieter features.

**Telescopic Boom Lifts** Articulating boom lifts and telescopic boom lifts move differently from each other. These units use hydraulics to retract and extend outwards and upwards. The worker who is in the platform has the controls to extend the lift and is able to operate without a second worker. Some taller and larger models have a jib situated near the top that is similar to an articulating boom lift model. Some models of boom lifts can achieve a reach of more than 180 feet. This equipment has been designed to be reliable and stable, with certain models capable of reaching their extended height in less than a minute. There are dual-fuel and diesel models available. Weight range capacities vary from 500 lbs. to 1000 lbs. and speed is adjustable. Available in 4WD and the ability to fit through small spaces. In terms of combining height and reach, telescopic boom lifts are your best bet. Jib Boom lifts that have an extension between the platform and the end of the primary boom are called the jib. This design facilitates an extra hinge or articulation point to enable the platform to move up and down or horizontally. Jibs are an option on many telescoping and articulating boom lifts. Articulating models have a joint situated roughly halfway between the wheels and the platform to enable it to reach over an obstacle and then lower again if required.

**Genie Articulating Boom Lifts** The Genie Z-boom model is a common kind of articulating boom lift that can be found on the market. This unit offers exceptional versatility for accessing difficult to reach locations with the capacity to lift up, over and out with precision. In 1985, the first Genie Z-30/20 articulating Z-boom was introduced; their up-and-over capacity make them instantly popular and this design continues today. Proper

**Safety Measures** Of course, safety is the highest priority when operating any type of boom lift. It is essential that all potential safety hazards are known to anyone working within the area to maintain a safe atmosphere. Safely operating the equipment is a top priority for the operator and everyone in the working environment. Proper safety gear and communication need to be completed prior to operating. Be aware of any battery gases, engine fuels, combustible items, lit cigarettes or open flames near the machine and do not operate if any flammable or combustible items are present. For the ultimate safety, it is important to have a visible, safely mounted and accessible fire extinguisher within the operators reach. Keep work surfaces and charging stations clean and free from clutter or tools that could puncture the tires or damage the machine or its components.

**Daily Maintenance** Daily maintenance includes a visual inspection and consulting the maintenance manual to ensure the machine is up to date and will operate safely. These industrial machines rely on lifting and supportive mechanisms to stabilize the weight. Fasteners, straps and chains must be regularly checked to make sure they are safe working order. It is very dangerous to reuse single use fasteners and other components as they might fail if used beyond their recommendations. Discarded solvents and oils must be disposed of safely and in an approved container to prevent environmental contamination. Adequate ventilation and lighting are essential in garages, workshops and along workbenches. To organize and specify, maintenance is categorized into a variety of subsections including Annual Maintenance, Quarterly Maintenance, Programmed and Commissioning Maintenance Intervals. Maintenance Inspection Report Key components of the boom lift are divided up to categorize the inspection process. Popular categories include Engine, Drive Chassis, Platform, Booms, Turntable, Controls and Function. Improper completion can result in unsafe operation, damage to components, poor performance and downtime. The maintenance inspection report is an essential component to keeping the machine operable and the staff safe while extending the service life and overall performance of the machine. Commissioning refers to a list of one-time maintenance procedures to be complete at 50 hours and at 150 hour intervals. Quarterly and annual maintenance is required to be performed throughout the year. Maintenance procedures are based on the operating hours of the boom lift and programmed maintenance may be conducted during pre-delivery machine preparation. Set yourself up for success by consulting your maintenance manual before operating the equipment to ensure battery life, oil changes and fluid levels are ready to go.