





http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us/curr/science/sciber00/8th/machines/images/base.jpg

Inclined Plane

An inclined plane is a slanted surface used to raise an object. An inclined plane decreases the size of the effort force needed to move an object. However, the distance through which the effort force is applied is increased.





An example of how an Inclined Plane can be used to raise a mass to activate another simple machine





<u>Screws</u>

A screw is simply an inclined plane wound around a central shaft. Rotational motion of the central shaft causes a linear motion up the screw



Rotating the drill bit....

...makes the chips move up the bit.



Rotating the screw shaft on the scissors jack causes the two sides to move towards the center. This is a classic example of using a screw to change rotary motion into linear motion.

The Tornado Slide IS NOT an example of a screw being used as a simple machine–gravity is just pulling you down a spiral plane. It would be a simple machine if the center post rotated so that you or a beach ball could start at the bottom and be raised to the top.



Archimedes screw

A special use of a screw is the Archimedes screw, a spiral screw turned inside a cylinder. It was invented in the 3rd century B.C. and was used to lift water from canals. The screw is still used today to lift water in the Nile delta in Egypt, and is often used to shift grain in mills and powders in factories.



http://www.tiscali.co.uk/reference/encyclopaedia/hutchinson/m0002929.html

An Archimedes Screw being used to transfer liquid from one glass to another...



...or a pair of them being used to lift the river on a water ride at SeaWorld.



Wheel & Axle

In this simple machine, a wheel or spoke or handle is locked to a central axle so that when one is turned the other must turn. Unlike a single pulley which only changes the direction of the force, the wheel & axle can change both the direction of the force AND the magnitude of the force (mechanical advantage). In this simple machine you are making work easier by trading force for distance.



A longer motion at the edge of the wheel is converted to a shorter more powerful motion at the axle—like the steering wheel of your car or boat, a door knob, or like the drawing below. The men are putting a smaller force on the outside of the wheel which results in a much larger force on the axle (rope spool).



In reverse, a short powerful force at the axle will move the wheel's edge a greater distance—like the large input force of the chain to the <u>rear wheel</u> of your bicycle.

