Typical drive train components for a rear-wheel-drive car.
Parts of a Clutch

(1) Flywheel

• The inner set is used to fasten the flywheel to the crankshaft, and the outer set provides a mounting plate for the pressure plate assembly.

• An external ring gear is pressed or welded onto the flywheel along its outer circumference.

• When the starter motor is engaged, the starter-drive gear meshes with the flywheel ring gear.
The purpose of the pressure plate assembly is twofold.

First, it must squeeze the clutch disc onto the flywheel with sufficient force to transmit engine torque efficiently.

Second, it must move away from the clutch disc so the clutch disc can stop rotating, even though the flywheel and pressure plate continue to rotate.
To disengage the clutch, the release bearing pushes the inner ends of the release levers forward toward the flywheel.

Each end of the lever moves in the opposite direction. When force pushes one end of the lever down, the other end moves up.

In a coil spring pressure plate, the release lever yokes act as fulcrums for the levers, and the outer ends of the release levers move backward, pulling the pressure plate away from the clutch disc.
Parts of a Clutch

(3) Pressure Plate Assembly

Coil Spring Pressure Plate Assembly
Parts of a Clutch

(3) Pressure Plate Assembly

Diaphragm Spring Pressure Plate Assembly

Drive strap
Machined surface

Pressure plate
Fulcrum ring
Diaphragm spring
Cover
Parts of a Clutch

4. Clutch Release Bearing