TRUST
FEATHERLITE
INDUSTRIAL LADDERS

Safer, Tougher, Canadian ...since 1949.

3 Steps to Ladder Safety
Since 1949, Featherlite has served the Canadian industrial ladder market, its name synonymous with quality, dependability and durability.

Featherlite, proudly 100% Canadian owned and operated, is committed to making only the safest, toughest and most durable ladders available.

Featherlite ladders are designed, stringently tested, and certified where applicable, to conform to the latest requirements of Canadian Standards Association (CSA), standard for portable ladders, CAN3-Z11-M81; American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards for portable metal (ANSI A14.2-2000) and reinforced plastic (ANSI A 14.5-2000) ladders; and, the Occupational Safety & Health Act (OSHA).

Selection of a top quality product is only the first step toward ladder safety. Proper set up and usage, as well as regular servicing of your ladder -- including thorough inspection and periodic maintenance -- are all key to the prevention of ladder related incidents.
Most Ladder Accidents Are Caused By...

North American and Scandinavian studies have found that over 95% of all incidents involving ladders are the result of the unsafe acts of users...

The following information is provided to help you eliminate incidents resulting from the unsafe use of otherwise safe ladders, and the use of unsafe ladders, through adoption and practice of a comprehensive 3-Step Ladder Safety Program, incorporating the following elements of Ladder...

• Selection
• Set-up
• Service

Whether you are an Employee, Safety Official, Homeowner, or Employer, if you use a ladder — regardless of frequency — or you are responsible for others that do, we believe that 3 Steps to Ladder Safety will help you to identify, and eliminate or manage, the majority of hazards associated with working with ladders.

On behalf of Featherlite Industries Ltd... Safe Climbing!

Do you have a specific ladder safety question? ...Or wish to contribute to ladder safe-work practices?

Contact the Featherlite “Ladder Expert”...

Call Toll Free: 1-800-867-5233 8:00 am. - 4:00 pm, Monday to Friday

100 Engelhard Drive, Aurora, Ontario  L4G 3V2
email: salesdesk@featherliteladders.com
www.featherlite.ca
One ladder is rarely suitable for all jobs. The first “STEP” in ladder safety is selecting the correct ladder for the task at hand by answering the following questions:

- What TYPE of ladder do I need? (i.e. is a step or extension ladder required?)
- What SIZE of ladder is required to perform the task?
- What MATERIAL of construction do I need? (i.e. what material should my ladder be made from?)
- What DUTY RATING do I need? (i.e. how much weight will the ladder need to support?)

When selecting a duty rating adequate for your needs, you MUST allow for the combined weights of: the user + clothes + tools + material.

The maximum load rating of the selected ladder should NEVER be exceeded.
### Duty Rating Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAX. LOAD CAPACITY</th>
<th>RATED USE</th>
<th>CSA</th>
<th>ANSI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 200 lbs            | **Light Duty Household**  
Designed for infrequent household chores, cleaning, painting, etc. | Grade 3  | Type III |
| 225 lbs            | **Medium Duty Commercial**  
Designed for moderate use by homeowners, painters, handymen, etc. | Grade 2  | Type II |
| 250 lbs            | **Heavy Duty Industrial**  
Designed for use by contractors in maintenance construction and industrial applications | Grade 1  | Type I  |
| 300 lbs            | **Extra Heavy Duty**  
Designed for frequent use in maintenance, construction and industrial applications. | Grade 1  | Type 1A |
| 375 lbs            | **Special Heavy Duty**  
Designed for the most demanding industrial and construction applications. | Grade 1  | Type 1AA |

While CSA recognizes neither the Type 1A or 1AA duty ratings, many Featherlite products have been designed and tested to meet or exceed the higher ANSI Type 1A and 1AA load ratings commonly specified by industrial and trades users, in addition to retaining CSA Grade 1 certification.
Straight/Extension Ladders
Straight and Extension Ladders require support at both top and bottom. They are very versatile and available in a variety of sizes ranging from 16 to 60 feet in length.

*Extension Ladder Safety Notes*

- If you will be working from the ladder, never stand higher than the third rung from the top.

- If you are climbing off the ladder at the top, never extend the ladder less than 3-feet, nor more than 4-feet above the upper support point.

*See the chart on page 8 to select the correct size Extension Ladder for your needs.*

Step Ladders
Step Ladders are designed to be self-supporting, and come in a variety of styles, and sizes ranging from 2 to 16 feet in length, and are in most cases, designed to be used by one person at a time.

Trestle and Two-Way Step Ladders can be climbed from either side, or support one person on each side.

Platform Step Ladders provide a large standing area which is more comfortable and safer to work from at fixed heights.
Step Ladder Safety Notes

- Never stand on the top, or the first step from the top, of a Step Ladder.

- Never climb a closed step ladder leaning for support against anything.

See the chart on the next page to choose the correct size Step Ladder for your needs.

Combination Ladders
Combination ladders are very versatile, and can often be configured in several different positions, each best suited to a particular task. Most models can be used as a Straight, Two-Way Step, Scaffold, or Stairway, Ladder. Their compact nature allows for easy storage and transport. They are available in several sizes and styles including telescopic, articulating and multi-way.
The following charts will allow you to determine the length of ladder you will require.

1. Measure from the ground to the highest point you wish to access.

2. Using the measurement from step one, consult the following chart for the right size ladder for your needs:

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STEP SIZE</th>
<th>MAX. STANDING HT.</th>
<th>APPROX. MAX. WORK HT.*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4'</td>
<td>1’11”</td>
<td>8’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5’</td>
<td>2’10”</td>
<td>9’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6’</td>
<td>3’9”</td>
<td>10’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7’</td>
<td>4’9”</td>
<td>11’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8’</td>
<td>5’8”</td>
<td>12’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10’</td>
<td>7’7”</td>
<td>14’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12’</td>
<td>9’6”</td>
<td>16’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14’</td>
<td>11’5”</td>
<td>18’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16’</td>
<td>13’4”</td>
<td>20’**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXT. SIZE</th>
<th>APPROX. MAX. WORK HT.</th>
<th>MAX. ROOF ACCESS HT.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16’</td>
<td>12’6”</td>
<td>9’6”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20’</td>
<td>16’6”</td>
<td>13’6”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24’</td>
<td>20’</td>
<td>17’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28’</td>
<td>24’</td>
<td>21’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32’</td>
<td>28’</td>
<td>24’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36’</td>
<td>31’</td>
<td>28’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40’</td>
<td>33’6”</td>
<td>30’6”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44’</td>
<td>37’6”</td>
<td>34’6”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48’</td>
<td>41’</td>
<td>38’6”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60’***</td>
<td>46’6”</td>
<td>43’6”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

*Assumes 5’ 6” person with 6’ 6” reach
**Consider scaffolding
*** Three section ladder
The feet of a straight or extension ladder should be set at a point one foot horizontally outward from the upper support, for every four feet of vertical distance between the ladder feet and the upper support point.

Each Featherlite extension, straight, and combination ladder, is equipped with a label similar to this, to assist in set-up. With the ladder set up correctly (approx. 76° from horizontal), the long leg of the “L” will appear vertical.
Ladders are made from a number of materials, each having its own characteristics...

**Aluminum**
The most common material of construction...

- Designed to meet specific load requirements.
- Comparatively light weight.
- Moisture and corrosion resistant.
- Conducts heat and electricity and should not be used where these conditions exist.

**Fibreglass**
An "Engineered" material consisting of continuous strands of high-strength glass fibres, and mats, encapsulated in a resin matrix.

- Pultruded to form I-Beam or channel shapes designed to meet specific load requirements.
- Non-conductor of heat and electricity.
- Heavier than aluminum
- Joined with aluminum rungs/steps for maximum strength to weight ratio.
- Moisture and corrosion resistant.
Wood
A natural material, most popular prior to introduction of aluminum and fibreglass ladders

- As a natural material, subject to variations in strength and other mechanical properties.
- Heavier than aluminum or fibreglass ladders.
- Non-conductor of heat and electricity when clean and dry.
- Has a tendency to splinter, rot, warp, and absorb moisture.

Steel
- Designed to meet specific load requirements and, easily assembled by welding.
- Conducts heat and electricity and should not be used in areas where these conditions exist.
- Susceptible to rust and corrosion.
In most users’ minds, handling and using ladders is straightforward and carefree. Unfortunately, some 4,000 people are hospitalized annually in Canada as a result of ladder incidents. Incident statistics show that users regularly fail to recognize, and eliminate or manage, potential hazards. Incidents involving ladders often result in serious injury and may result in permanent disability or death.

Once a ladder appropriate for the task has been selected, it MUST be thoroughly inspected (See Section 3) before set up and use!

CONSIDER BEFORE USE...

- Do not use metal ladders where they may contact wires. Metal ladders conduct electricity.
- Before using any ladder, first read, then follow, all the labeled warnings and instructions specific to that ladder; and, pay close attention to what you are doing.
- Do not use a ladder if you are in poor health, tired, under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or physically incapacitated.
- Wear clean, sturdy shoes with slip-resistant soles.
- Always secure a ladder from movement.
- Unless specifically labeled otherwise, ladders are designed to be used by one person only, at a time.
- Do not exceed the labeled load-rating.
GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR LADDER SET-UP AND USE

• Never use in high winds, or during an electrical storm.
• Never leave a ladder set up and unattended.
• Consult manufacturer for use in chemical or other corrosive environments.
• Remove oil, grease, mud, snow, ice or other foreign substance from hands, shoe-soles, steps and rungs, before climbing any ladder.
• Use a 2-way or trestle ladder, with one person per side, when a job requires two people.
• When climbing up or down, always face a ladder; maintain a firm grip and 3-point contact. Do not climb from one ladder to another.
• Most ladders are not intended to be used as, or on, scaffolds. Do not straddle or sit on rungs.
• Never store materials on ladders. Securely support ladder in transit.
• Place ladder where access is not obstructed. Do not place in front of unlocked doors.
• Avoid dropping, or applying an impact load to, a ladder. If it has been dropped or subjected to impact, remove it from service until it can be inspected for damage.
• Except for small identification marks in translucent, acrylic lacquer, never paint any ladder. Paint can hide cracks and other defects, and may alter the flashover-voltage properties of fibreglass or wood ladders.
• To protect wood ladders, periodically apply a clear, non-conductive preservative followed by spar varnish.
GUIDELINES FOR EXTENSION AND STRAIGHT LADDER SET-UP

What is “Kick-out”, and how to prevent it:

For Straight and extension ladders the correct set-up angle-from-horizontal is approx. 76-degrees (from whence comes the 1:4 rule); however, 5-degrees either way of 76-degrees is generally OK. At 76-degrees, the anti-slip feet of the ladder provide the maximum resistance to sudden outward “kick-out” of the ladder feet. Angles steeper than 80-degrees expose the user to falling over backwards; while, at angles shallower than 70-degrees, “kick-out” force intensifies perilously. Ladders “kick-out” when the slip-resistance provided by the ladder feet, is exceeded by an opposing force that intensifies as a user ascends a ladder.

“Kick-out” occurs for one or more of the following reasons…

• Ladder is set up at too shallow an angle from horizontal.

• Ladder-foot friction pads are worn, missing, oily, or wet.

• Underfoot surface is slippery, icy, wet, oily, loose, etc.

• User climbed beyond the ladder upper support point.

Opposing slip-resistance is a frictional force dependent upon the combined weight of ladder and user; type and condition of the rubber foot-pads; and, type and condition of the surface underfoot.

If the user climbs higher than available friction allows, the ladder feet suddenly and irreversibly, accelerate outward under the force of gravity.

In the following diagrams, red arrows indicate the direction and magnitude of the “kick-out” force that develops at different set-up angles, as a 200-lb climber approaches roof level. Assuming an average slip-resistance of 100 lb-f (see green arrows), note that the 100% margin of safety at 76-degrees, reduces to 33% at 72-degrees, and to 0% at 64-degrees. At that point a “kick-out” incident is highly probable under all but perfect footing conditions!

To avoid “kick-out”, watch your set-up angle, ensure a clean, slip-free footing, and if in doubt, use your “picks”, or block the feet from moving.
“KICK-OUT” LOAD AT VARIOUS SET-UP ANGLES

4:1
Ø = 76°
100 lb-f 50 lb-f

3:1
Ø = 72°
100 lb-f 75 lb-f

2:1
Ø = 64°
100 lb-f 100 lb-f

KICK-OUT LOAD AT VARIOUS SET-UP ANGLES
MORE GUIDELINES FOR EXTENSION AND STRAIGHT LADDER SET-UP

• Set-up on level ground. Use rubber safety feet on asphalt and concrete, and picks (spiked type feet) on grass or slippery surfaces. If you must set-up on ice, or frozen ground, block the front of both feet to prevent outward movement.

• If you cannot level the ground, use a manufacturer approved leveler, on one or both legs.

• Tie-off the top, or side-rails to prevent sideways slip of the ladder.

• Do not overreach. Get down and move ladder as needed. Use help in setting up ladder, if possible.

• Never work higher than 3 feet from the top of the ladder.

• Avoid pushing or pulling off to the side of ladder. Do not “walk” or “shift” ladder while on it, and maintain 3-point contact at all times.

• If using a ladder to go onto a roof, the top of the ladder should extend at least 3 feet and no more than 4-feet above the roof line.

• Keep body centered between side rails.

• Ensure that top and bottom of ladder are properly supported.

• Extend fly section and engage rung locks. Make sure rope does not create a tripping hazard or interfere with activity near the ladder.

• Tying the bottom fly rung to adjacent base rung is recommended.

• Extend and retract fly section only from the ground and when no one is on the ladder.
• Hang ladder on racks at intervals of 6’ for support, and never hang a ladder from a rung.

• Do not overextend the fly-section. A minimum overlap of sections is required as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LADDER SIZE</th>
<th>OVERLAP REQUIRED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to and including 32 feet</td>
<td>3 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 32 feet, up to and including 36 feet</td>
<td>4 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 36 feet, up to and including 48 feet</td>
<td>5 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 48 feet</td>
<td>6 feet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How to carry an Extension Ladder

• Get help to carry any ladder that you do not feel comfortable lifting.

• While there are many ways to safely carry an extension/straight ladder, one method for ladders under 16-feet in section length and 40-pounds weight, is as follows...

  1. Lay fully retracted ladder on its side on the ground, with fly-side facing away from you, and ladder-feet behind you to your right.

  2. Count the number of rungs on the base, note where the centre of the ladder is then walk along the ladder to the first base-rung past the centre.

  3. With your body at right angles to the ladder, and without twisting or bending your back, bend your knees and grasp one of the upper rails in each hand, right hand behind the left.

  4. Straighten legs and stand, allowing arms to fully extend.

  5. Walk forward carefully. If you need to turn, do so with your feet not your waist.
How to raise/lower an Extension Ladder

- Get help raising any ladder that you do not feel comfortable raising/lowering alone.

1. Position the ladder fly side up, at right angles to the wall and with the top end of the ladder approx. 3-feet from the wall.

2. While standing in front of, and facing, the top of the ladder, bend knees slightly, grasp and lift both base rails and straighten up, while retaining a loose grip on each rail.

3. Walk toward the centre (approx. Balance-point) of the ladder, while sliding your hands along the rails.

4. Firmly grasp both rails and extend your arms to a full upright position.

5. Walk backwards towards, and rest the top of the ladder against, the wall.

6. Walk to a position immediately behind the ladder feet, and while bracing the ladder feet to keep them from moving, extend the fly to the appropriate height.

7. Grasp the ladder rails at waist height, lift the foot end clear of the ground then move toward the wall until the long-leg on the set-up-assist label is vertical, or the foot of the ladder is 1-foot out from the wall for every 4-feet of height to the ladder support point.

8. If you are on a hard, clean, non-slip surface ensure that each rubber foot pad is resting squarely, and evenly on the surface.

9. If you are on a soft, loose, or slippery surface, rotate each ladder foot until the “picks” are behind the base rail and pointing down. Using your foot, on the bottom ladder-rung, push each pick into the ground as far as possible.
SPECIFIC SAFETY GUIDELINES
FOR STEP LADDER SET-UP

- For heights over 20 feet or as otherwise stipulated by Provincial Ministries of Labour, use scaffolding instead of a step ladder.

- Open step Ladders completely and ensure spreaders are locked and ladder is stable before climbing.

- Set all 4 feet on firm, level surface. Do not place on unstable, loose, or slippery surfaces.

- Climb only front side of ladder. Face ladder when climbing up and down. Maintain a firm grip and 3-point contact when ascending and descending the ladder.

- Keep body centered between side rails. Do not overreach. Get down and move ladder as needed.

- Do not climb, stand, or sit on spreaders, rear braces, ladder top, or pail shelf.

- Do not straddle front and back. Do not climb from one ladder onto another.

- Avoid pushing or pulling off to the side of ladder. Do not “walk” or “shift” ladder while on it.

- Never climb a step ladder while it is closed and leaning against anything for “support”.

[Image of step ladder with guidelines]
How to carry a Step Ladder

• Get help to carry any ladder that you do not feel comfortable lifting.

• One method of carrying a closed, light-weight stepladder is…

  1. Place it on its side, on the ground, with the head-tray in front of you to the left.

  2. Stand facing forward, opposite the “balance point”—approximately one third of the ladder’s length forward of the ladder-feet.

  3. Bend the knees, without twisting or bending your back, and grasp the upper rail with your right hand. (Use both hands for heavier ladders)

  4. Straighten your legs and carry the ladder by your side with right arm fully extended.
Once you have selected the correct ladder for the job, it should be carefully inspected before each set-up and use. **NEVER USE A DAMAGED LADDER.** Many incidents are caused by the use of damaged or otherwise unsafe ladders, and result in severe injury or death.

LADDER INSPECTION

Please refer to the inspection procedure and form provided in Appendix A for a full outline of what to look for when inspecting your ladder(s). This outline includes the following key warning signs:

- Side rails that have been damaged, bent, or twisted, should **never** be straightened. Once material has been bent, its strength characteristics have been compromised.

- Loose or cracked rungs are normally caused by severe over-stressing of a ladder, as may occur if the ladder falls. Take the ladder out-of-service until it can be repaired or replaced.

- Under no circumstances should loose rungs be welded. Unless ladders are designed with welded rungs, welding will soften the material, therein reducing its strength.
• Inspect Copolymer top for cracks or dents.

• Inspect all side rails for cracks, dents, bends or any other blemishes.

• Ensure that all fasteners are present and tight.

• Ensure that the safety-feet are tight, and rubber foot pads present, tight, and free of wear.

• Ensure spreader arms move freely and lock properly, and that the spreader-to-rail connections are tight.

• Ensure that all steps, horizontal and step braces, are present, free of bends and dents, and tight.

• Inspect pail tray to see that it moves freely, sets up properly, and that all connections are tight.
• Inspect the side rails of the base and fly making sure there are no dents, cracks or other blemishes.

• Ensure that all end caps and slide-guides are free from cracks, chips and wear.

• Ensure all fasteners are present and tight.

• Inspect rope and pulley, and ensure that the rope moves freely and is not frayed, knotted, or stretched.

• Ensure that the base and fly sections are straight, and not twisted or warped.

• Inspect all rungs for dents and cracks, and, ensure they do not rotate.

• Inspect the safety feet for worn rubber pads and loose or missing fasteners.

• Inspect the gravity locks. They should pivot freely, and the fingers should be in good working condition.
Fibreglass ladders are non-conductive, strong and durable. Fibreglass rails are manufactured in a process called pultrusion, wherein continuous strands, and mats, of glass are encapsulated in thermoset resin and molded into a variety of rail profiles. The resin incorporates colour pigments and UV inhibitors. The UV inhibitors protect the resin from surface UV and atmospheric corrosion. On average, every 3-5 years, depending on exposure of the ladder to direct sun, and atmospheric pollutants, the surface of the fibreglass should be checked for “fibre prominence” as may be witnessed by a rough feel when you run your hand across it. If prominence is noted, the ladder rails should be lightly “sanded” using a non-abrasive ScotchBrite® scouring pad, solvent-cleaned then “painted” with a brush-applied, transparent, 2-part polyurethane coating. (i.e. Sherwin-Williams #RS 6010 clear enamel with #RS 9820 hardener). This coating will provide further UV, and atmospheric corrosion protection, and should last for at least another 3-5 years.

Despite their strength and durability, fibreglass ladders can be broken, cracked, gouged or punctured if not protected from damage, or used improperly. Fibreglass ladders should be carefully inspected, before each use, for the following defects.

1. **Crack**
   A see-through separation of the fibreglass laminations visible from both sides. The ladder should be removed from service until the rail can be replaced or the ladder disposed of.

   A separation of material, not visible from the other side. The ladder should be regularly and carefully inspected to ensure it does not deteriorate further. If moisture is allowed to penetrate the rail the non-conductive properties are greatly reduced.

   To reduce the risk of water penetration, clean the area with a mild solvent solution, and apply a polyurethane clear-coat.
2. Resin Surface Crack
A surface crack that does not penetrate the laminate layer. Inspect regularly to ensure it has not expanded, especially into the laminate area. If moisture is allowed to penetrate the non-conductive properties of the rail are greatly reduced. A polyurethane clear-coat or an exterior quality paste wax may be applied to inhibit moisture penetration.

3. Gouge/Hole
A puncture that is visible from both sides. The ladder should be removed from service until the rail can be replaced or the ladder disposed of.

LADDER MAINTENANCE

Like any equipment, your ladder requires periodic preventive maintenance.

The entire ladder should be cleaned on a regular basis, and moving parts should be kept clean and lightly lubricated. Slide guides and safety feet should be replaced if worn and the rope assembly replaced at least once a year. In order to maintain the maximum dielectric properties of fibreglass ladders, they should be regularly cleaned with mild detergent and water and waxed with an exterior quality paste wax. The wax helps to keep water and dirt out of scratches and gouges that might otherwise reduce surface dielectric properties.
Ladder Repair
There are only a few ladder components that can be repaired in the field. It is very important that replacement parts are properly installed on your ladder. An incorrectly installed part is as dangerous as a broken or worn out one. In most cases parts can be replaced with the self-locking nuts, bolts and washers; however, in some instances riveting is required.

If in doubt, check with a Featherlite Authorized dealer or a Featherlite representative.

The following is a list of the most common parts that can be replaced by a competent maintenance professional:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXTENSION LADDER</th>
<th>STEP LADDER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Safety Feet</td>
<td>Safety Feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rope Assembly</td>
<td>Spreader Arms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rung Locks</td>
<td>Head Tray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slide Guides</td>
<td>Pail Tray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protective End Caps</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cog Wheels</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pail Tray</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ladder Replacement
The simple rule “if in doubt tag it out” applies when a ladder has been damaged badly enough to break, bend, or twist parts. Tag it out-of-service until it can be repaired by a competent technician, or disposed of.
**Assign Responsibility:** It is important to the success of your program to assign responsibility, give authority and hold someone accountable for the program. This person should typically be someone in a supervisory, maintenance, or health and safety related role in the workplace.

**Set Up a Control Manual:** In order to do this you will need to take an inventory of your ladders and give each a permanent identification number. Determine the frequency of use of each ladder and with this information, set up the appropriate inspection frequency for each ladder.

**Inspect Ladders:** A thorough inspection should be carried out of each ladder. Those that require repair or replacement should be immediately tagged DO NOT USE. These items should be logged in the control manual indicating: the nature of the problem; the individual responsible for corrective action; and, the due date for repair or replacement.

**Follow Up:** Upon completion of repair the control manual log entry should be signed by the person responsible for the repair, and the supervisor accepting the ladder ready for use. (A maintenance work order system works well in this situation.)

**NOTE:** A formal ladder control program still requires the user to complete an inspection before each first use of the ladder. See “Ladder Inspection Form” on page 31.
1. Metal ladders can be used near electrical sources if they have rubber feet at the bottom?
   - True
   - False

2. How far must a ladder extend beyond the roof line if you are going to climb onto the structure?
   - 1 foot
   - 3 feet
   - 6 feet
   - None of the above

3. The base of a ladder should be placed so that it is two feet away from the structure for every four feet of height to where it rests against the building?
   - True
   - False

4. The base of a ladder whose top support is 16 feet high should be how far from the building?
   - 2 feet
   - 4 feet
   - 3 feet
   - None of the above

5. It is OK to exceed the load rating of a ladder, but by no more than 25%?
   - True
   - False

6. How often should a ladder be inspected?
   - Once a year
   - Every three months
   - Prior to every use
   - None of the above
7. Short ladders can be spliced together to make longer ladders.
   m True
   m False

8. If only a short height needs to be accessed it is OK to lean a step ladder against a wall, providing it is closed?
   m True
   m False

9. You should never stand any higher than the 2nd rung from the top of an extension ladder.
   m True
   m False

10. It’s a good idea to paint all ladders.
    m True
    m False

11. List three unsafe ladder practices in the picture on the next page.

    a. ________________________________

    b. ________________________________

    c. ________________________________
## APPENDIX A: LADDER INSPECTION FORM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inspector:</th>
<th>Ladder Style:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
<td>Ladder Type:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ladder ID #:</td>
<td>Ladder Model #:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage Location:</td>
<td>Date Received:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### INSPECTION ITEM - General

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SIDE RAILS - Free from cracks, dents, bends or blemishes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUNGS/STEP - Ensure tightness and no rotation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FASTENERS - Rivets, nuts and bolts all tight</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEET - Look for wear or loose rivets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### INSPECTION ITEM - Step Ladders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOP CAP - Free from cracks and dents</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPREADER ARMS - Tight and move freely</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HORIZONTAL BRACES - Ensure tightness</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEP BRACES - Ensure tightness</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAIL TRAY - Moves freely, is tight and sets up properly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### INSPECTION ITEM - Extension Ladders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>END CAPS - Tight and free from cracks, chips or wear</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROPE AND PULLEY - Ensure rope is not frayed or knotted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAVITY LOCKS - Ensure they pivot freely and fingers in good working condition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLIDE GUIDES - Free from cracks, chips or wear</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASE AND FLY SECTION - Ensure they are straight and not warped</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Remove from service and destroy

OK’d - Return to service

Accepted for return to service

Remove from service and repair by (date):

By: ______________________

Date: ____________________

By: ______________________

Date: ____________________

COPOLYMER TOP

PAIL TRAY

SPREADER ARMS

BACK RAIL

HORIZONTAL BRACES

SAFETY FEET

END CAPS

SIDE RAIL FLY

SLIDE GUIDES (SYSTEMS VARY)

ROPE ASSEMBLY

GRAVITY LOCKS

SIDE RAIL BASE

SAFETY FEET
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Ladder Accidents Are Caused By</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 Ladder Selection</strong></td>
<td>4-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection Of Duty-Rating</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duty-Rating Chart</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection Of Ladder Type</td>
<td>6-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection Of Ladder Size</td>
<td>8-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection Of Material-Of-Construction</td>
<td>10-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2 Ladder Set-Up</strong></td>
<td>12-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consider Before Use</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Guidelines For Set-Up And Use</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guidelines For Extension And Straight Ladders</td>
<td>14-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Kick-Out” What Is It And How To Prevent It</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Kick-Out” Loads At Various Set-Up Angles</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overlap-Of-Sections Chart</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How To Carry, Raise/Lower An Extension Ladder</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guidelines For Stepladders</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How To Carry A Stepladder</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3 Service – Inspection &amp; Maintenance</strong></td>
<td>21-26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ladder Inspection</td>
<td>21-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stepladder Inspection Procedure</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extension Ladder Inspection Procedure</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fibreglass Ladder Inspection</td>
<td>24-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ladder Maintenance</td>
<td>25-26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ladder Repair</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ladder Replacement</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control And Maintenance Program</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ladder Safety Quiz</td>
<td>28-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ladder Inspection Form</td>
<td>31-32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do you have a specific ladder safety question?  
...Or wish to contribute to ladder safe-work practices?

Contact the Featherlite “Ladder Expert”...

Call Toll Free: 1-800-867-5233 8:00 am. - 4:00 pm, Monday to Friday

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