

HOW TO SELECT A LADDER

**1** Select a Type



**STEP LADDER**  
The most popular style of ladder. Used from medium to low heights. Utilize pail shelves and tops to hold tools for the job.

**TWIN FRONT LADDER**  
Allows two users to work on the same ladder simultaneously. Easily accomplish tasks that would be more difficult for a single person.

**PLATFORM LADDER**  
Combine step ladder and warehouse ladder technology. The non-pinch platform provides a large standing area for work.

**EXTENSION LADDER**  
The most versatile style of ladder, found in a variety of sizes. Most commonly used for higher elevations.

**2** Select a Height

STEP LADDERS		
LADDER SIZE	APPROX. HIGHEST STANDING LEVEL	MAXIMUM REACH
4'	1' 11"	8' 6"
5'	2' 10"	9' 5"
6'	3' 9"	10' 4"
7'	4' 9"	11' 4"
8'	5' 8"	12' 3"
10'	7' 7"	14' 2"
12'	9' 6"	16' 1"
14'	11' 5"	18'
16'	13' 4"	19' 11"
18'	15' 3"	21' 10"
20'	17' 2"	23' 9"

EXTENSION LADDERS				
LADDER SIZE	MAXIMUM EXTENDED LENGTH	MAX. REACH*	WORKING RANGE TO TOP SUPPORT*	MAXIMUM ACCESSIBLE ROOF HEIGHT RANGE*
16'	13'	16' 1"	7 ½' - 12 ½'	4 ½'-9 ½'
20'	17'	20'	9 ½' - 16 ½'	6 ½'-13 ½'
24'	21'	23' 10"	11 ½' - 20'	8 ½'-17'
28'	25'	27' 9"	13 ½' - 24'	10 ½'-21'
32'	29'	31' 7"	15 ½' - 28'	12 ½'-25'
36'	32'	34' 6"	17 ½' - 31'	14'-28'
40'	35'	37' 5"	19' - 33 ½'	16'-30 ½'
44'	39'	41' 3"	21' - 37 ½'	18'-34 ½'
48'	43'	45' 2"	23' - 41 ½'	20'-38 ½'
60' *	48'	50'	23' - 46 ½'	20'-43 ½'

\*Assumes 5' 7" person with 12" vertical reach |  
 \*When set up at the proper 75 1/2° angle | \*\*Three-section extension ladder

HOW TO SELECT A LADDER (CONTINUED)

**3** Select a Load Capacity

**TYPE IAA**  
Professional use. Extra heavy duty. Capable of supporting 375 lbs.  
**USES:** MRO and industrial construction.

**TYPE IA**  
Professional use. Extra heavy duty. Capable of supporting 300 lbs.  
**USES:** Roofing, building maintenance, contracting and industrial construction.

**TYPE I**  
Industrial use. Heavy duty. Capable of supporting 250 lbs.  
**USES:** Building maintenance, general contracting and sheet rock.

**TYPE II**  
Commercial use. Medium duty. Capable of supporting 225 lbs.  
**USES:** Light commercial and general repair, painting and cleaning.

**TYPE III**  
Household use. Light duty. Capable of supporting 200 lbs.  
**USES:** Light cleaning and painting.

**4** Select a Ladder Material

**ALUMINUM**

- ▶ Lightweight
- ▶ Long-lasting construction
- ▶ Resists corrosion
- ▶ Ideal for painting, roofing and siding

**DO NOT USE ALUMINUM LADDERS NEAR ELECTRICITY**

**FIBERGLASS**

- ▶ Non-conductive when clean and dry
- ▶ Strong and durable
- ▶ Weather-resistant
- ▶ Great for heavy-duty construction

**FIBERGLASS LADDERS ARE SAFE FOR WORKING AROUND ELECTRICITY**

**AT LOUISVILLE LADDER**, all of our products are designed and constructed to meet or exceed applicable standards and requirements of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and Canadian Standards Association (CSA). Please read the information on this page before using our products. Your safety is important to us.

**ANSI** Louisville Ladder, Inc. manufactures products in compliance with the applicable safety codes of the **AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE (ANSI)**. There are a variety of ANSI safety codes depending on material and type of ladder. You can find a list of them in the figure on the right. In addition, ANSI codes have established a Duty Rating which identifies the use for which a portable ladder is intended and the conditions under which the ladder can be used safely. An extensive series of tests and design requirements determines which Duty Rating label a particular ladder may receive. The total load supported includes the combined weight of the user, clothing, tools and any materials on the ladder. However, ladders must be used properly in order to support the intended load.

**FIBERGLASS LADDERS: ANSI A14.5**

**METAL LADDERS: ANSI A14.2**

## HOW TO SELECT A LADDER (CONTINUED)



The **OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (OSHA)** regulates the adequacy of ladders and the work practices followed by employees using them in five sections: Portable Wood (1910.25), Portable Metal (1910.26), Fixed Ladders (1910.27), Mobile Ladder Stands and Scaffolds (1910.29) and ladders used in Construction Industry (1926.1053). These sections specify the standards to which all portable ladders must be manufactured, care and placement of ladders in the workplace, and the safe use of ladders on the job.

OSHA sets minimum national requirements with respect to the use of ladders in business and industry. However, many states have enacted their own regulations under the Occupational Safety & Health Act that establish more severe requirements. The more demanding state codes will supersede OSHA standards within their respective states. Therefore, users should check with their own state OSHA representatives.



Where applicable, product meets or exceeds **CANADIAN STANDARDS INSTITUTE** testing

## LADDER INSPECTION

### Look for damaged or missing parts

Always check for damage before using any ladder. Do not use a damaged ladder. Conduct your inspection before you leave for the job site.

1. Begin at the bottom, making sure the feet are not broken or malfunctioning and that the slip-resistant pads are secure.
2. Inspect the ladder for cracks, bends, and splits on side rails, rungs, and steps.
3. Check all rung/step-to-side rail connections, as well as hardware, fittings, and accessories. Make sure both rung locks are in working order.
4. Test the rope and pulley for smooth operation. Replace the rope if frayed or partially cut.
5. All pivotal connections and the rung-locks should be well-lubricated.
6. All bolts and rivets should be secure. Never use a ladder if any bolts or rivets are missing or if the joints between the steps (or rungs) and the side rails are not tight.
7. Make sure the ladder (particularly the steps and rungs) is free of foreign materials such as oil and grease.
8. If you're using a stepladder, make sure the spreader braces are not bent, are secure and working properly.

Use a ladder-inspection chart as a guide for evaluating the safety of a ladder.

Remember to inspect the ladder before you travel to the job site, because once you're there you'll be tempted to use the ladder regardless of its condition.

Always mark unsafe ladders by using a damaged-ladder tag (see sample illustration).

Be sure to store damaged ladders away from usable ladders. Have them repaired as soon as possible. Destroy unrepairable ladders immediately.

### Transporting a ladder

Accidents can happen while transporting the ladder to the job site. A ladder is long and awkward, and can cause injuries and property damage during transport. When possible, two people should carry an extension ladder. If you carry it yourself, keep the front end of the ladder slightly higher than the back end.

**Never move or reposition an extension ladder without completely retracting the fly section. Failure to do so can cause serious injury or death.**

Secure both ends of a ladder when transporting it on a vehicle. Use care when placing ladders onto or removing from ladder racks.



## INSTRUCTIONS- TWIN STEP LADDER

### Consider before each use

1. Metal ladders conduct electricity. Keep away from electrical circuits.
2. Consult manufacture for use in chemical or other corrosive environments.
3. Use a ladder only as outlined in instructions. Ladders are designed for one person only. DO not overload.
4. DO not use in high winds or during storms.
5. DO not use in poor health, if taking drugs or alcoholic beverages, or if physically handicapped.
6. Keep shoes clean. Leather soles should not be worn.
7. Never leave ladder set up and unattended.
8. Pay close attention to what you are doing.
9. Use this product at your own risk.

### Proper set-up and use

1. Use help in setting up twin step ladder, if possible.
2. Make sure ladder is fully open and spreaders locked.
3. Set all feet on firm level surface. Do not place on unstable, loose, or slippery surfaces. Place twin step ladders where access is not obstructed. Do not place in front of unlocked doors. Twin step ladders are not intended to be used on scaffolds.
4. Secure twin step ladder from movement where possible.
5. Make sure spreaders are locked and twin front ladders is stable before climbing.
6. Face twin front ladder when climbing up or down. Maintain a firm grip. Use both hands in climbing.
7. Keep body centered between side rails. Do not over reach. Get down and move twin step ladder as needed.
8. Do not climb, stand or sit above second step from the top. Do not climb stand or sit on spreader braces, ladder top, or pail shelf.
9. Do not straddle front and back. Do not climb from one twin step ladder to another.
10. Avoid pushing or pulling of to side of twin step ladder. Do not "walk" or "shift" the ladder on it.

### Proper care and storage

1. Hang twin step ladder on racks at intervals of 6' for support.
2. Never store materials on twin step ladder
3. Never drop or apply an impact load to twin step ladder.
4. Securely support twin step ladder in transit.
5. Never paint a wooden twin step ladder. Treat with wood preservative.
6. Protect wood twin step ladder from exposure to the elements but allow good ventilation. Keep away from heat and moisture.

## INSTRUCTIONS- TWIN STEP LADDER (CONTINUED)

### Caution

