

LADDER SAFETY SERIES

Inspecting a ladder

Inspect ladders before each use. If you find a ladder that is damaged or in poor condition, remove it from service and report it to your supervisor or employer.



Inspection	Not applicable	Condition ok	Needs repair
Label			
Ladder is labelled or marked with its load and duty rating.			
Ladder parts			
All parts are in place.			
Parts are free of defects (cracks, dents, bends, breaks, splits, sharp edges, corrosion, rust, exposed fiberglass, rot, decay or excessive wear).			
Rungs and steps are free of mud, grease, oil, wet paint, snow or other slippery substances.			
Rungs, steps and side rails are connected securely.			
Bolts, rivets, nails and screws are secure.			
Moving parts move freely without binding or too much play.			
Safety shoes or padded feet are in good repair and clean – not missing or loose.			
Slip-resistant tread on feet is in good condition – not excessively worn.			
Extension ladders			
Metal bearings in locks, wheels and pulleys are lubricated.			
Locks or latching mechanisms are not missing, broken or loose.			
Locking guides or brackets engage properly.			
Rope tracks properly in the pulley.			
Ropes are not frayed, cut, badly worn, burned or showing mildew or rot.			
Ropes are free of tangles.			
Stepladder			
Spreader bars are tight and have all rivets.			
Spreader bars open fully and lock.			