

STEP LADDERS



Wisconsin Chapter

One of the most common and simple pieces of equipment on a job site is the step ladder. It is also one of the most frequently misused and abused pieces of equipment. Each year hundreds of workers are killed or seriously injured when working from step ladders. To help reduce the chances of being injured or killed while working on a step ladder, choose the correct ladder for the job, and follow the basic safety rules associated with ladder use.

Step ladders are divided into 4 major categories as described below:

Classification	Duty Rating	Intended Applications
Type IA	300 pound	Extra heavy duty ladder intended for frequent use in heavy duty applications like construction.
Type I	250 pound	Heavy duty industrial ladder intended for use in industry and light construction.
Type II	225 pound	Medium duty commercial ladder intended for light maintenance and office applications.
Type III	200 pound	Light duty ladder intended for household use.

Once you have chosen the correct ladder for the job, follow the manufacturers' instructions on proper use of the ladder, and be aware of the basic ladder safety rules that follow:

- Never stand, sit or work from, the top two steps of a step ladder.
- Be sure the ladder is completely opened and the spreader lock is in place.
- Make sure the ladder is placed on level, solid ground.
- Examine your ladder for defects before each use. It is unsafe to use if side rails are cracked or split, or if there are sharp edges or splinters on cleats, rungs or side rails. Check also for missing, broken, or weakened cleats, rungs or treads.
- Never paint a ladder or use a ladder that has been painted. Paint may hide defects.
- Never use the cross bracing on the back side of a ladder for climbing.
- When ascending or descending a ladder, always face the ladder and maintain a 3-point contact.



By signing below, you certify that you have been trained and understand the safety talk that was given.

Title: STEP LADDERS	Date:
Company Name:	Foreman/Sup:
Location:	Given by:

Employee Name Printed	Signature
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