



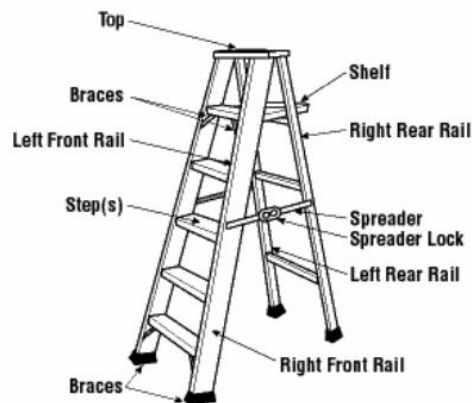
SAFETY BRIEF: STEPLADDER SAFETY

We use stepladders commonly in the field, but please remember they require careful use! Many times we are using ladders by our clients and may not be familiar with them. You need to perform an appropriate pre-use inspection to make sure the ladder is intact before use. This safety brief is intended to remind you of the details of ladder safety.

Ladders are not designed for any degree of side loading and are relatively easily overturned. Avoid over-reaching! Do not step on the top of a stepladder! People have been killed getting down from elevated workplaces when they have stepped onto the top step of a stepladder, which then overturned.

Here are good points to review and remember about stepladders:

- Ensure stepladders are positioned on level ground and used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Do not use makeshift or home-made ladders or carry out makeshift repairs to a damaged ladder.
- Make sure all four feet of the ladder are on a firm, dry, level surface.
- Be sure to clear the ground area around the ladder before climbing.
- Check the ladder carefully for any cracks or loose pieces.
- Only use stepladders ladders in a fully open position. Lock the side braces and cross braces before climbing.
- Do not use a stepladder as a straight ladder in a folded and leaning position.
- Always wear proper footwear with good tread when climbing.
- Do not stand on the top two steps of the ladder unless they are designed for standing.
- Watch for people working under or around the ladder.
- Keep your body centered on the middle of the ladder.
- Do not lean to reach items while standing on the ladder.
- Get someone to assist you when working with a ladder.
- Avoid lifting or carrying any heavy items while climbing up or down the ladder.
- Use a ladder made out of non-conductive material for work in electrical areas.
- Do not use stepladders to support work platforms.



Check out this OSHA Document for ladder safety:

[https://www.osha.gov/OshDoc/data/Hurricane Facts/portable_ladder_qc.pdf](https://www.osha.gov/OshDoc/data/Hurricane%20Facts/portable_ladder_qc.pdf)



STEPLADDER SAFETY QUIZ

- 1) Do not lean to reach items while standing on the ladder.
 True
 False

- 2) Do not use a stepladder in a folded and leaning position in place of a straight ladder.
 True
 False

- 3) Two stepladders can be used to support a work platform.
 True
 False

- 4) You need to inspect a stepladder prior to use.
 True
 False

- 5) You need to sign a waiver prior to using a client's ladder.
 True
 False

SCORE: PASS / FAIL

Employee Signature

Supervisor Signature

Date