



Ladder Inspection

When should you inspect ladders?

- Inspect ladders before each use.
- Inspect new ladders promptly upon receipt.
- Check the condition of ladders that have been dropped or have fallen before using them again.
- Inspect ladders before storing to make sure they are in good condition to store, or need repair, replacement or to be removed from the site.



What should you look for when inspecting any ladder?

- Missing or loose steps or rungs (they are loose if you can move them by hand).
- Damaged or worn non-slip feet.
- Joints between the steps and side rails are tight.
- Fatigued and broken welds.
- Hardware and fittings are securely attached.
- Loose or faulty spreaders, locks, extension locks and other metal parts in poor repair.
- Rungs are free of defects.
- Sharp edges on rails and rungs.
- Rungs/cleats are free of oil/grease.
- Metal parts are free of corrosion.
- Bent, twisted or distorted rails. Check ladders for distortion by sighting along the rails.
- Missing identification labels.

What should you do after inspecting any ladder?

- Replace worn or frayed ropes on extension ladders.
- Lubricate pulleys on extension ladders regularly.
- Tag any defective, broken or bent ladders and take them out of service.
 - Destroy ladders that cannot be repaired safely by a person authorized by the manufacturer.
 - Ladders should be destroyed in a way that makes them useless.
- Report damaged ladders to the Maintenance Superintendent.