

TOOL BOX TALKS

Unsafe Ladders

Roughly 150 construction workers die each year as a result of falls from ladders. Ladders are cheap and simple to use, but ladders expose the user to fall hazards every time they're used. Workers must be trained in the use of ladders, and training should include the following topics: Selecting the right ladder for the job, inspection, load capacity, three-point climbing, and the 1 to 4 pitch rule. Review these ladder inspection tips with ladder users.

WORKSAFE TIPS

SAFE LADDERS PREVENT FALLS!

Roughly 150 construction workers die from ladder falls each year.

Always inspect ladders before use.

Verify that the ladder is the correct size and type for the job at hand.

Do not overload any ladder.

Remove damaged ladders from service.

Tag or identify ladders that must not be used.

Do not self-repair damaged ladders.

A replacement ladder costs \$350 but a fall injury can cost thousands of dollars and can even kill a worker.

Inspect these parts of the ladder:

- Cracks in side rails or rungs
- Loose rivets in rungs or hinges
- Missing parts like base feet or spreader bars
- Warped or bent parts



A damaged ladder can be deadly because it exposes the user to fall hazards.

Remove damaged ladders from use!



Unsafe! Rubber pads missing from extension ladder base feet!

