
WORKSAFE

► Ladders (Storage and Handling)

Ladders that are properly handled and stored should last for a long time without problem however should still be regularly inspected.

The proper way to handle and store ladders is as follows:

- Return ladders to storage area after use.
- Store ladders where they are protected from the weather.
- Support ladders horizontally on racks. To prevent sagging, support ladders every 2 m (6 ft.). Do not hang ladders from rails or rungs.
- Do not store materials on ladders.
- Keep wooden ladders in a well-ventilated location, away from dampness and excessive heat.
- Avoid long overhangs beyond support points when transporting ladders on vehicles.
- Pad racks on vehicles with soft material to reduce wear and road shocks.
- Mark ladders that overhang vehicles with a red or orange flag.
- Grasp ladders near the center when carrying them.
- Use caution when carrying ladders through passageways, doorways or any place where your view is obstructed.
- Use a partner to help carry long or heavy ladders.
- Ensure that you and your partner are on the same side when carrying a ladder. Stay in step. Work out in advance any hand or voice signals to coordinate stopping or changing direction.
- Always return ladders to storage area after use.

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LIVE
SAFE.
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SAFE.**

Adapted from: www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/safety_haz/ladders/