



Safety Share

Fixed Ladders

Many workers have been seriously injured while using ladders on the job. Help minimize falls from ladders by understanding selection, inspection and use.

Selection

- Fixed ladders must be designed and manufactured to meet ANSI A14.3 requirements.
- This standard includes requirements for platforms, safety cages or ladder safety systems, depending on the ladder length.
- Not all ladder safety systems are the same. Different equipment may be required for proper use.
- The method of ladder lock-out is important to keep unintended users off when not in use.



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Inspection

- Before using the ladder, inspect it for loose, broken or missing parts, cracks in the metal, mounting points to structure and fall protection attachment points.
- Complete annual qualified inspection and pre-use inspections.
- Remove defective ladders by tagging them out of service.

Use

- Use gloves when climbing a ladder.
- Face the ladder and maintain three-point contact.
- Carry tools in a tool belt, pouch or tool lanyards.
- Never exceed the manufacturer's weight restrictions.
- Only one person should use the ladder at a time.

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