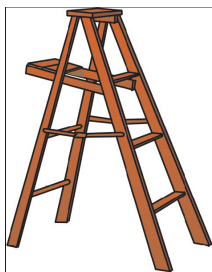


# HOMEBUILDERS

— SELF INSURERS FUND —



## Ladders

Ladders are one of the most common and useful tools found in any operation. This is especially true in the construction industry. With few exceptions all trades have a need for ladders at one time or another to complete their portion of the job. Falls are the most common accident from ladder use, with collapse of the ladder being a close second. The best way to reduce these types of accidents is to know how to inspect and use this important tool.

### Basic Guidelines for Ladder Inspections

**If any of the following items are found, tag the ladder as “Out of Service”:**

- Loose, broken, bent or missing rungs, cleats, or bracing.
- Loose or missing bolts, screws or nails.
- Wood splinters.
- Corrosion of metal ladders or metal parts.
- Missing, cracked or damaged side rails or footpads.

### Basic Guidelines for Ladder Use

**First and foremost, choose the right type and size ladder for the job.**

- Do not set up in doorways or walkways where others can run into them.
- Do not run hoses, cords or ropes on ladders that may create a tripping hazard.
- Do not increase length by putting on boxes, barrels, buckets, or other unstable bases.
- Do have solid footing against a solid surface.
- always Tie off straight ladders.
- Be sure the top of the ladder extends at least 36” beyond the top-supporting surface.
- Never splice or tie two ladders together.
- Do not lean out to the side when on a ladder.
- Never stand above the indicated topmost safe step on a stepladder.
- Never have more than one person on any ladder.
- Check footwear to be sure they are free of slippery substances (mud, oil, grease, etc.).
- Never use metal ladders when electrical hazards are present.

### ***SAFETY - FIRST, FOREMOST AND FOREVER***

*This document is provided for information purposes only. It is not intended to be a substitute for individual legal counsel or advice on issues discussed within. To request that a Loss Control Consultant survey your jobsite, contact us at 225.387.0286 or toll free at 1.877.LHBASIF (542.2743).*