



Environmental, Health and Safety



- Ensures that employees complete required training, and that training is documented

Employees are responsible for the following:

- Complies with this program
- Completes required training
- Selecting the appropriate ladder for the task, inspecting the ladder prior to the task, and using the safe work practices defined in this program
- Notifies the supervisor/manager of concerns or problems with department ladders

Contractors are responsible for the following:

- All contractors working at WSU shall be responsible supplying and using their own portable ladders on WSU campus.

Ladder Construction Requirements

Fixed and portable ladders and step stools shall at minimum meet the appropriate Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and American National Standards Institute (ANSI) A14.1 materials and construction specification. Portable ladders shall display the appropriate legible ANSI standard compliance marking and other ladder safety markings.

Wichita State University requires at the minimum the Duty Rating of a "Type II" ladder for any work activities where ladders are used for elevated work projects where the user is not handling large or heavy objects during ladder use. All Maintenance/Trades are recommended to use "Type I" or stronger ladders for their work activities.

Rules for Ladder Use

Intended Use

Ladder use shall be restricted to the purpose for which the ladder was designed.

- The duty rating of the ladder must be clearly indicated on the ladder
- The working load to be placed on the ladder including the person and tools must be less than the duty rating
- Ladders shall not be climbed by more than one person at time unless designed to support more than one person
- Stepladders shall not be used as single ladders or in the closed or partially closed position
- The user shall not step or stand higher than the step or rung indicated on the label marking the highest standing level on a ladder



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- The user shall not step or stand on the ladder top cap and the top step of a stepladder, or a combination ladder configured as a self-supporting ladder
- The rear braces of a stepladder may not be used for climbing

Angle of Inclination

Portable non-self-supporting ladders should be erected at a pitch of approximately 75 degrees from horizontal for optimum resistance to sliding, strength of the ladder, and balance of the climber. A simple rule for setting up a ladder at the proper angle is to place the base a distance from the wall or upper support equal to one-quarter the effective



Users are cautioned to take proper safety measures when ladders are used in areas containing electrical circuits. These precautions should prevent any contact or possible contact with an energized, uninsulated circuit or conductor to avoid electrical shock or short circuit. Metal ladders shall not be used where they would encounter exposed energized electrical wires. All ladders should be kept away from electrical power lines.

Access to Roof or Platform

When a single section or extension ladders are used to gain access to a roof or platform, the top of the ladder shall extend at least 3-feet above the point of support at the eaves, gutter, platform, or roofline. The user shall take care when ascending from the ladder to the roof/platform to avoid tipping the ladder over sideways or causing the ladder base to slide.

Doorways

Ladders shall not be placed in front of doors opening toward the ladder unless the door is blocked open, locked, or guarded.

Set-Up and Adjustment of Ladders

Extension Ladders --- Adjustment of extension ladders shall only be made by the user when standing -

