Ladder Inspection Checklist

OSHA 29 CFR 1910.23 (General Industry) | 29 CFR 1926.1053 (Construction)

Date: _____	**Inspector: _____**	**Location: _____**	**Ladder ID: _____**
Ladder Type: Step / Extension / Fixed / Job-Made	**Material: Aluminum / Fiberglass / Wood**	**Duty Rating: _____**	

Part 1: Structural Inspection

Inspection Item	Expected Condition	OK	Fail
Side rails	No cracks, splits, bends, or corrosion. Fiberglass not chalky or delaminated. Wood not painted (opaque coatings hide defects).		
Rungs/steps	All present, secure, and evenly spaced. No bending, cracking, or excessive wear. Slip-resistant surface intact.		
Rung-to-rail connections	Tight and secure. No wobbling, looseness, or visible damage at connection points.		
Feet/shoes	Non-slip feet/pads present and in good condition. No excessive wear, missing, or damaged foot pads.		
Spreader/locking device	Stepladder spreaders lock fully open. No bent, broken, or missing locking mechanisms.		
Extension locks (dawgs)	Engage securely at each rung. Spring-loaded locks snap into place. No bent or worn teeth.		
Rope and pulley	Extension ladder rope intact, not frayed. Pulley rotates freely. Rope securely attached.		
Safety labels	Capacity/duty rating label legible. Warning labels present and readable. ANSI compliance markings visible.		
Hardware	All bolts, rivets, screws, and fasteners tight and present. No missing or stripped hardware.		
Overall condition	No unauthorized modifications or repairs (tape, wire, screws). Ladder clean, free of oil, grease, and wet paint.		

Part 2: Setup and Use Verification

Inspection Item	Expected Condition	OK	Fail
Stable surface	Ladder on firm, level surface. Not on boxes, barrels, or other unstable bases.		
4-to-1 rule (extension)	Base set out 1 foot for every 4 feet of working length (75.5-degree angle).		
3-foot extension	Extension ladder extends at least 3 feet above upper landing surface.		

Secured/tied off	Ladder secured at top, bottom, or both to prevent displacement. Stabilizers used if needed.		
Electrical clearance	Nonconductive ladder used near electrical equipment. Minimum clearances from power lines maintained.		
Clear access	Area at top and bottom of ladder clear. No obstructions, tripping hazards, or traffic.		
Proper use	Ladder used only for designed purpose. Not used as scaffolding, bridge, or in closed/folded position.		

Deficiencies & Corrective Actions

Deficiency Description	Corrective Action	Assigned To	Date Fixed

Ladder Condition: SAFE to use / UNSAFE – removed from service

Inspector Signature: _____ Date: _____

Supervisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

If any structural defect is found, immediately tag the ladder "Do Not Use" and remove from service. Do not attempt field repairs. Defective ladders must be repaired by the manufacturer or a qualified person, or destroyed.

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