



## SAFETY INFO

## STEPS TO SELECTING A LADDER:

- 1. Determine what the task involves and select the ladder that satisfies all of the job requirements.
- 2. Always make sure the height or extension of the ladder is appropriate for the job to be performed without standing on the top two steps.
- 3. Ensure the chosen ladder fulfills all safety requirements and has a CSA or UL approval label which defined its intended use.
- 4. The decision to use a *Type I* (industrial) or *Type II* (commercial) ladder is affected by the type of work to be completed and the load capacity (weight limits) of the ladder.
- 5. Ensure the selected ladder is protected against all substances that are found in the work area that could cause damage or deterioration.
- 6. For electrical tasks, select only non-conducting ladders, e.g. a fiberglass ladder.

## Ladders must always be inspected before each use.

## **GUIDELINES TO INSPECTING A LADDER:**

- Ensure rails are not flawed in any way (cracked, twisted, missing, worn, sharp edges, etc.).
- Ensure the braces are not damaged or detached.
- All steps and/or rungs must be securely in place and not posses sharp or damaged edges.
- Treads must not be smooth, coated with materials or corroded.
- All metal parts, including screws, nails, bolts and hinges, should not be damaged or corroded and must be firmly in place.
- All the ladder surfaces must be smooth and not be splintery.
- The ladder's feet should be non-slip and not be worn or damaged.
- Identification label must be clearly marked on the ladder.
- Make sure that when the ladder is extended, the locks are securely fastened.
- With fixed ladders, ensure that the mounts are not worn or damaged.

If any of the defects listed are present, the ladder should not be used:

- Label the ladder "DEFECTIVE" and remove it from service immediately.
- NEVER make temporary repairs.
- NEVER attempt to straighten crooked ladder parts.

LADDERS