

**KEYWORDS:** LADDERS ; STEPLADDERS ; EQUIPMENTS**10-15 MINUTES**

# Topic: STEPLADDERS



## IDEAS FOR YOUR TALK:

- *People remember facts better when they're interactive and visual: use an Stepladder to illustrate or demonstrate your risk statements.*
- *People remember stories better than raw facts: think of a personal story that you can share.*
- *People structure thoughts to remember them: think of risks or defects that can occur with each component of a ladder and go from bottom to top.*
- *YouTube is another good source of information and offers many safety videos and demonstrations. Select only videos that are high-quality.*

## 1. SUGGESTED ENGAGEMENT QUESTIONS:

- Who has used Stepladders on this job?
- What is the main risk involved in using Stepladders?
- Has anyone heard of an incident or accident involving a Stepladder?

## 2. TALKING POINTS:

- Keep the area at the base of the ladder clear.
- Make sure the spreader arms lock securely in the open position.
- Stand no higher than the second step from the top.
- Never straddle the space between a stepladder and another point.
- When standing on the ladder, avoid leaning forward, backward, or to either side.
- Always open the ladder fully before using it.
- Never stand on the top step, the top, or the pail shelf of a stepladder.
- When climbing up or down a stepladder, always face the ladder and maintain 3-point contact. That means two hands and one foot or two feet and one hand must be on the ladder at all times.
- Unless suitable barricades have been erected, do not set up stepladders in passageways, doorways, driveways, or other locations where they can be struck or displaced by people or vehicles using the access route.

## 3. CLOSING QUESTIONS:

- Do you know of any damaged ladders or equipment?
- Do you have questions on this subject, inspection or safe use?
- Are you aware of a risk on this jobsite that shouldn't be?



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