

APPENDIX 5 STEPLADDER CHECKLIST

Use this checklist before using a stepladder to ensure it is safe for use.

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|---|--------------------------|
| Suitable for the task, i.e. tall enough to reach safely
(NEVER STAND ON TOP THREE RUNGS) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| General condition sound
(clean & dry, free from wet paint, oil, mud, etc) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| No cracks | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| No rungs missing or loose | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| *Not painted | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| No stiles** damaged or bent | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| No warping or splitting (wood) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| No corrosion (metal) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| No sharp edges or dents (metal) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| No rungs bent (metal) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Footpads OK | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Caps/rubber fittings OK | <input type="checkbox"/> |

All metal ladders should have slip-resistant rubber or plastic feet.

Damaged ladders need professional repairing – or replacing.

* Ladders should never be painted, as this could hide dangerous defects from view. A wooden ladder can be protected with clear varnish or transparent rot-proofer.

** Stiles are the outside uprights on a ladder.