



Ladders Toolbox Talk

- One third of all reported fall from height accidents involve ladders or stepladders, many of these are due to the inappropriate or incorrect use of the equipment.
- Where work at height is from a ladder you need to justify that this is the most suitable access equipment compared to other access equipment choices.
- This is done by risk assessment and the hierarchy of controls.
- The hierarchy of controls are firstly to avoid work at height where possible, then to prevent falls from height; and failing that, to reduce the consequences of a fall.
- Ladders are only appropriate for light work and short duration work.
- Ladders are suitable for tasks where you can maintain three points of contact, both feet and one hand whilst performing the task.
- On a ladder where you cannot maintain a hand hold other than for a brief period of time other measures will be needed to prevent a fall or reduce the consequences of one.

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