



Weekly Safety Tip

OSHA's Most Cited Ladder Violations



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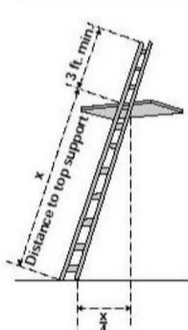


Listed in order from the most cited sub-sections down to the least cited

By the numbers

An OSHA analysis of citations issued from 2017 to 2021 explored the 10 most cited sections within the agency's standard on ladders (1926.1053). Here's a look:

SUBSECTION	NO. OF VIOLATIONS	
TOTAL	11,716	
1926.1053(b)(1)	7,124	When portable ladders are used for access to an upper landing surface, the ladder side rails shall extend at least 3 feet above the upper landing surface to which the ladder is used to gain access; or, when such an extension is not possible because of the ladder's length, then the ladder shall be secured at its top to a rigid support that will not deflect, and a grasping device, such as a grabrail, shall be provided to assist employees in mounting and dismounting the ladder. In no case shall the extension be such that ladder deflection under a load would, by itself, cause the ladder to slip off its support.
1926.1053(b)(4)	1,463	Ladders shall be used only for the purpose for which they were designed.
1926.1053(b)(13)	1,025	The top or top step of a stepladder shall not be used as a step.
1926.1053(b)(16)	410	Portable ladders with structural defects, such as, but not limited to, broken or missing rungs, cleats, or steps; broken or split rails; corroded components; or other faulty or defective components, shall either be immediately marked in a manner that readily identifies them as defective, or be tagged with "Do Not Use" or similar language, and shall be withdrawn from service until repaired.
1926.1053(b)(6)	295	Ladders shall be used only on stable and level surfaces unless secured to prevent accidental displacement.
1926.1053(b)(5)	279	Non-self-supporting ladders shall be used at an angle such that the horizontal distance from the top support to the foot of the ladder is approximately one-quarter of the working length of the ladder (the distance along the ladder between the foot and the top support).
1926.1053(b)(5)(ii)		Wood job-made ladders with spliced side rails shall be used at an angle such that the horizontal distance is one-eighth the working length of the ladder.
1926.1053(b)(5)(iii)		Fixed ladders shall be used at a pitch no greater than 90 degrees from the horizontal, as measured to the back side of the ladder.
1926.1053(b)(22)	272	An employee shall not carry any object or load that could cause the employee to lose balance and fall.
1926.1053(b)(9)	130	The area around the top and bottom of ladders shall be kept clear.
1926.1053(b)(15)	118	Ladders shall be inspected by a competent person for visible defects on a periodic basis and after any occurrence that could affect their safe use.
1926.1053(b)(8)	76	Ladders placed in any location where they can be displaced by workplace activities or traffic, such as in passageways, doorways or driveways, shall be secured to prevent accidental displacement, or a barricade shall be used to keep the activities or traffic away from the ladder.



Here are 5 Ladder Safety Take-Aways:

1. Pick the right ladder for the job
2. Inspect the ladder before using it
3. Go 3 feet above
4. Maintain 3 points of contact
5. Place cones or rope & signs to ID "stay clear" area



Weekly Safety Share



National Ladder Safety Month is March



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Every step matters: From step stools to extension ladders, make sure you're putting the right foot forward.

Every year over 100 people die in ladder-related accidents, and thousands suffer disabling injuries.

Join the **American Ladder Institute (ALI)** and participate in **National Ladder Safety Month** in March to raise awareness of ladder safety and to decrease the number of ladder-related injuries and fatalities.

National Ladder Safety Month is the only program dedicated exclusively to promoting ladder safety, at home and work.

To repeat, each year, tens of thousands of injuries and hundreds of deaths are caused by ladder misuse. By providing critical guidelines and raising awareness on safe use, we can help decrease these numbers.

ALI, the developer of safety standards for the U.S. ladder industry, is the presenting sponsor for National Ladder Safety Month.

ALI believes ladder accidents are preventable with thorough safety planning, training, and continuous innovation in product design. The more we all get involved, the wider the message spreads, and the more people learn about proper ladder safety.

The "why": Every life saved is precious

The goals of **National Ladder Safety Month** are to:

- o Decrease number of ladder-related injuries and fatalities
- o Increase the number of ladder safety training certificates issued by ALI
- o Increase the frequency that ladder safety training modules are viewed on www.laddersafetytraining.org
- o Lower the rankings of ladder-related safety citations on OSHA's yearly "Top 10 Citations List"
- o Increase the number of in-person ladder trainings
- o Increase the number of companies and individuals that inspect and properly dispose of old, damaged or obsolete ladders



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Check out OSHA's Quick Takes here! (New links)

Find the most recent BWC Safety Update here! (New links)



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