



TOOLBOX

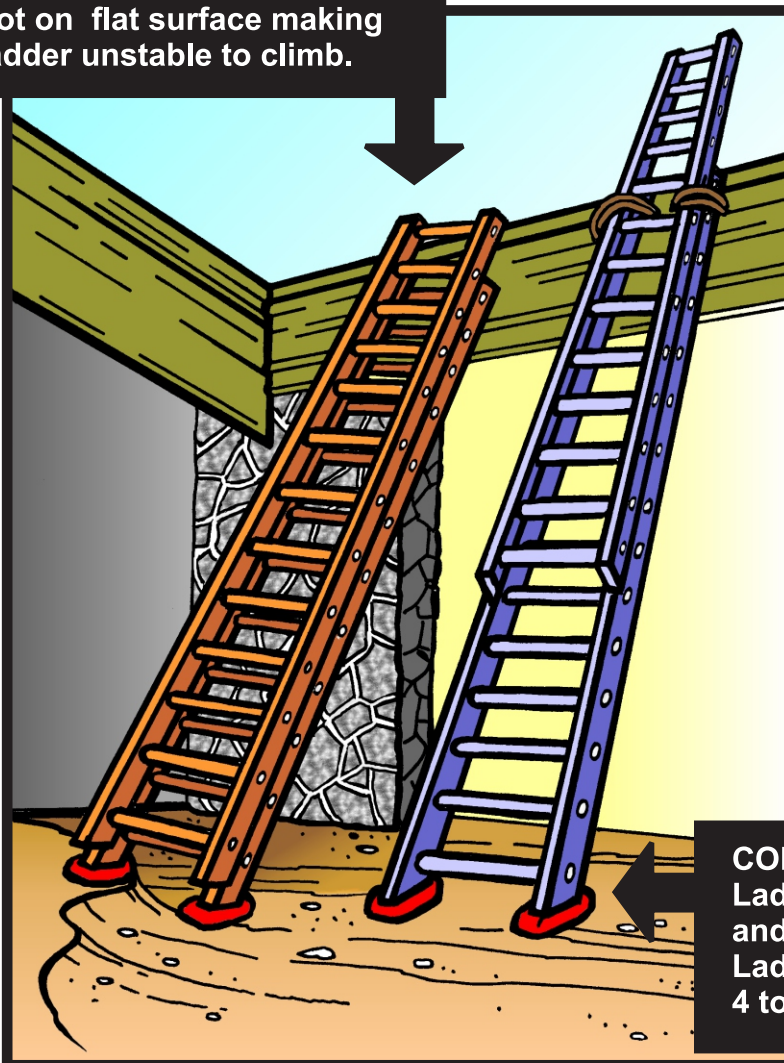
SAFETY TRAINING

Company _____ Location _____ Date _____

Vol 32 - No 32 EXTENSION LADDER SAFETY

According to the Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO, each year about 50 construction workers are killed from falls using ladders. Twice as many falls occur from stepping down compared to going up. The main cause of falls from extension ladders is displacement of the ladder's base. The ground under the ladder should be level and firm. If needed, large flat wooden boards braced under the feet can level the ladder on uneven or soft ground.

INCORRECT:
Ladder does not extend far enough above the landing and is not tied off. It also is not on flat surface making ladder unstable to climb.



All metal ladders should have slip-resistant rubber or plastic feet. Place the ladder so that for every 4 feet of working length the base of ladder would be 1 foot out from the top support. The area around the top and the bottom of the ladder should be kept clear of clutter.

The ladder should extend 3 feet above the landing and should be tied off properly. It should not be loaded beyond the manufacturer's rated capacity and workers should not climb higher than the third rung from the top

While climbing, three-point contact should be maintained, therefore employees should never carry any objects while climbing. The ladder should be inspected at regular intervals and if found defective should be tagged "Dangerous - Do Not Use".

CORRECT
Ladder extends 3 feet above landing and is tied off to prevent slipping. Ladder is level with the correct 4 to 1 height to base ratio.