

HELPING YOU CHOOSE THE BEST LADDER FOR THE JOB



A ladder or platform can be an essential piece of kit for any professional, but the sector you work in might mean that one is more suitable than another.

For most jobs an aluminium ladder is ideal, but when working around electricity, fibreglass is a must.



Falls when working at height remain the most common kind of workplace fatality, accounting for around a quarter of all worker deaths and 8% of all non-fatal injuries every year.

With this in mind, you need to carefully consider the equipment you buy and whether it is suitable.

Check out our handy guide to find out more.

ELECTRICAL

Aluminium ladders are great for all sorts of tasks, but if you're carrying out electrical installations or working near power lines then you should consider using a non-conductive ladder, such as a fibreglass option, to help reduce the risk of shocks.



Benefits of fibreglass ladders:

- Fibreglass does not conduct electricity, so it's safer to use around power lines or other live sources of electricity
- Extremely resistant to weathering, fibreglass does not absorb moisture or significantly weaken in the sun and it doesn't corrode or rust
- Maximum strength – fibreglass has high resistance to denting and twisting

PAINTING AND DECORATING

For painters and decorators, a ladder is an essential part of the tool kit. However, making sure you can get to where you need to reach, safely and securely, is vital.

What decorators should look for when choosing a ladder:

- Somewhere to place your paint can is ideal when choosing what ladder to complete your project. This could be a platform stepladder or a ladder that allows for add-ons. This minimises the chance of spillage and makes the job easier
- If you need to reach up high, then an extension ladder is the ideal tool for the job
- Looking for a bit more space to move around? Then a work platform may be the right choice for you
- For working on uneven surfaces such as stairs, then a multi-purpose ladder may be suitable
- When it comes to choosing what material, aluminium ladders offer a lightweight solution, however if there is chance that you could be working by electrical sources, then a fibreglass option would be best



BUILDING

A ladder can be an essential piece of kit for any builder, but depending on the job at hand or time required on the job they might not always be the most suitable option.



What are the options?

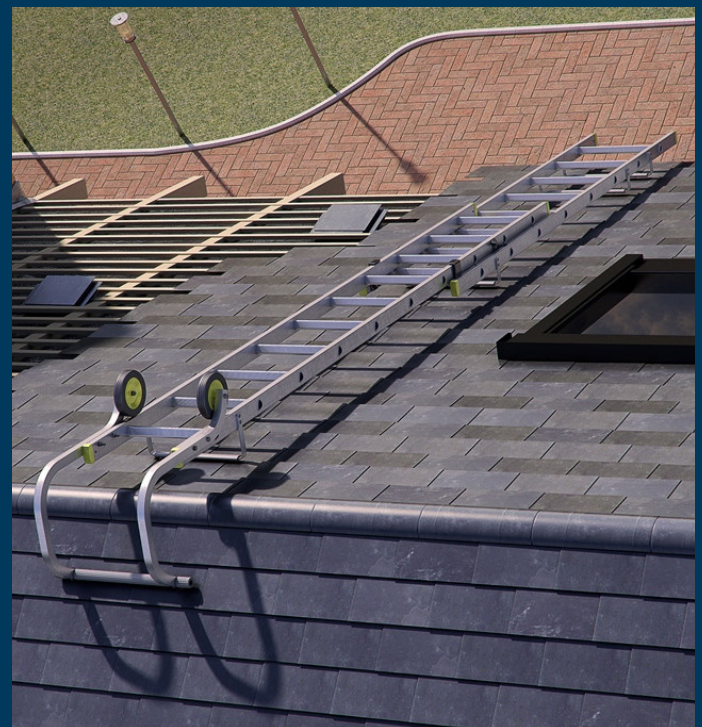
- If you're tight on space, then choosing a telescopic ladder or collapsible work platform is a great option
- Don't want more than one piece of kit? Why not look at a multi-purpose ladder? This way you get more flexibility and don't have to carry around multiple items
- If you need more flexibility than a ladder will allow, a work platform can be a handy item to add to your kit
- For bigger jobs, consider a mobile access tower, which offers a flexible way to work, which can be built up to various working heights.
- When working at height for longer periods of time, a work platform is ideal as it has a larger work surface allowing for a larger work area to be covered

ROOFING

When buying a suitable roof ladder there are several factors to consider; are they designed for the purpose, are they properly supported and securely fixed with ridge hooks, and are they of suitable tread depth?

So, what should you look out for when choosing a roof ladder:

- Always opt for an aluminium roof ladder. This type of material ensures strength and durability, allowing you to get the job done safely and efficiently
- It's advisable to opt for a roof ladder with non-slip serrated rungs. These give better grip when walking up onto the roof and minimise any risk of accidents
- Measure up! Make sure you are able to get to the roof safely first. You'll then need to give consideration to the overall length of the roof ladder and make sure that it is long enough to reach from the eaves to the roof ridge
- Ensure you choose the right size equipment for the roof you plan on working on. This will ensure you'll be working safely at all times



To find out more about Werner's ladders and platforms, or to discover the right piece of equipment for you working at height, [visit our website](#).