

Fixed Ladder Inspection

Department: ______ Building: _____

Location of the ladder:_____

Ladder description/identification: ______ Ladder length (ft.): ______

Inspector (Competent Person): _____ Date: _____

Note: This does not apply to portable ladders or step bolts on telecommunication towers or fixed ladder rungs in elevator shafts.

	General	N/A	Yes	No
1	The rungs are uniformly spaced 10-14 in. apart (6.5-12 in. for ship stairs), parallel, and uniform in size.			
2	The rungs/cleats are at least 16 in. wide (at least 18 in. wide and 4 in. deep for ship stairs).			
3	The clearance between the steps/rungs/grab bars and structure is at least 7 in.			
4	The grab bars are not protruding on the climbing side beyond the rungs of the ladder.			
5	The ladder is in good working condition (i.e., no loose rungs/steps/side rails, cracks, corrosion).			
6	The rungs are free of excess dirt/grease/oil/slippery material and surfaces are free of laceration hazards.			
7	<i>For ladders that terminate at a hatch,</i> the cover opens with sufficient clearance to provide easy access to/from the ladder, and a guardrail system with a self-closing gate or an offset at the entrance is provided.			
8	For through or sidestep ladders, the side rails/grab bars extend 42 in. above the top landing platform.			
9	<i>For through ladders,</i> rungs omitted from extensions/side rails are flared to provide 24-30 in. of clearance; where ladder safety systems are used, the max. clearance is 36 in.			
10	For through ladders, the step-across distance from the centerline of the rungs is between 7-12 in. to the nearest edge of the structure/building/equipment accessed from the ladders. Note: Where the distance is greater than 12 in., a landing platform may be installed.			
11	<i>For side-step ladders,</i> the step-across distance from the centerline of the rungs or steps is 15-20 in. to the access points of the platform edge.			
12	For ladders without a cage or well, the clearance width on each side of the ladder centerline to the nearest permanent object is at least 15 in.			
13	For ladders without a cage or well, the min. distance from the centerline of the rungs to the nearest object on the climbing side is at least 30 in. Note: Where unavoidable obstructions are encountered, the min. clearance at the obstruction may be reduced to 24 in., provided deflector plates are installed.			
14	For ship stairs and alternating-tread type stairs, a handrail is provided on both sides.			
15	For ship stairs and alternating-tread type stairs, the slope is between 50-70° from the horizontal.			
16	For ladders, the slope is between 60-90° from the horizontal.			
17	For ladders over 30 ft. with cages or 20 ft. in with no cage, are equipped with landing platforms.			
	Existing Fixed Ladders with Cages (<i>Note:</i> required until the cage is removed and ladder is equipped with a ladder safety system or fall arrest system)	N/A	Yes	No
18	Side rails that might be used as a climbing aid provide adequate gripping surface without sharp edges.			
19	The bottom of the ladder cage starts 7-8 ft. above the base of the ladder.			
20	The bottom of the cage is flared at least 4 in.			
21	The clearance from the centerline of the ladder rung to the back of the cage is between 27-28 in., and the cage is at least 27 in. wide.			
22	The vertical bars of the cage are located at a max. spacing of 40° around the circumference of the cage, giving a max. spacing of approximately 9.5 in. center-to-center.			
23	Rest landing platforms are provided at max. intervals of 50 ft.			
	Ladder Safety System (Note: required for ladders over 24 ft. in length; existing ladders with cages are exempt until Nov. 18, 2036)	N/A	Yes	No
24	The ladder safety system allows employees to climb up/down the entire vertical distance of the ladder with both hands and does not require them to continuously hold/push/pull any part while climbing.			
25	Rest landing platforms are provided at max. intervals of 150 ft.			
	Landing Platforms	N/A	Yes	No
26	The landing platform is at least 24 in. deep by 30 in. wide.			
27	The landing platform is equipped with guardrails with either a swinging gate or offset at the opening.			
	Comments/Corrective Action Items			
