

### Combination Ladders

#### Maintenance checks before use:

- Check that the stiles (uprights) are not bent, bowed, twisted, dented, cracked, corroded or rotten.
- Check that the stiles around the fixing points for other components are in good condition.
- Check that fixings (usually rivets, screws or bolts) are not missing, loose or corroded.
- Check that rungs and any corner braces are not missing, loose excessively worn, corroded or damaged.
- Check that the rung hooks are not missing, damaged, loose, corroded and engage properly on the rungs.
- Check that guide brackets are not missing, damaged, loose or corroded and engage properly on the mating stile.
- Check that any hinges between front and rear sections in standing ladder mode are not damaged, loose or corroded and operate freely.
- Check that any locking stays, or restraining straps are secure and not missing, bent, loose, corroded or damaged.
- Check that feet/end caps are not missing, loose, excessively worn, corroded or damaged.
- Check that the entire ladder is free from contaminants (e.g. dirt, mud, paint, oil or grease).
- Check that locking catches (if fitted) are not damaged or corroded and function correctly.

**IMPORTANT: IF ANY OF THE ABOVE CHECKS CANNOT BE FULLY SATISFIED YOU SHOULD NOT USE THE LADDER**

#### Repairs:

You should **NOT** attempt to repair the ladder unless you are qualified to do so.

You can seek advice from the manufacturer regarding repair or replacement.

#### Storage:

The important considerations when storing a ladder should include the following:

- Is the ladder stored away from areas where it's condition could deteriorate more rapidly (e.g. dampness, excessive heat or exposed to the elements)?
- Is the ladder stored in a position which helps it to remain straight (e.g. hung by the stiles on proper ladder brackets or laid on a flat clutter free surface)?
- Is the ladder stored where it cannot be damaged by vehicles, heavy objects or contaminants?
- Is the ladder stored where it cannot cause a trip hazard or an obstruction?
- Is the ladder stored securely where it cannot be easily used for criminal purposes? If the ladder is permanently positioned (e.g. on scaffolding), is it secured against unauthorised climbing (e.g. by children)?

#### Contact:

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