

**Important note:** *Professional users and equipment providers to professional users (e.g. employers) should engage in proper training such as the Ladder Association Ladder Inspection Course.*

### Single And Multi-Section Leaning 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 the fixings (usually rivets, screws or bolts) are not missing, loose or corroded
- Check that rungs are not missing, loose excessively worn, corroded or damaged.
- Check that rung hooks are not missing, damaged, loose, corroded and engage properly on the rungs
- Check that the guide brackets are not missing, damaged, loose, corroded and engage properly on mating stiles
- Check that feet 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 should seek advice from the manufacturer regarding repair and replacement.

#### Storage:

The important considerations when storing a ladder (not in use) should include the following.

- Is the ladder stored away from areas where it could deteriorate more rapidly (e.g. dampness, excessive heat or exposed to the elements)?
- Is the ladder in a stored position which helps it to remain straight (e.g. hung by 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 used for criminal purposes?
- If the ladder is permanently positioned (e.g. on scaffolding) is it secured against unauthorized climbing?