Defender™ rung ladders

Defender rung ladders are the safe and reliable choice for accessing roof areas, platforms and plant equipment. They are designed and independently certified to fully meet the requirements of Australia’s National Construction Code (formerly the BCA) and AS 1657, ensuring compliance with Australian Standards, OHS legislation and state regulations.

All Defender rung ladders are installed by Certified Defender Installers, ensuring the highest standards in quality, reliability and compliance with safety requirements.

About the AS 1657 Standard

The AS 1657 Standard requires that the means of access shall be selected from the following limits of slope, and considered in the hierarchical order given:

Limits of slope

- **0°** - Little preferred
- **2°** - Preferred
- **5°** - Likely to cause employee fatigue
- **10°** - Considered safe
- **17°** - For narrow or steep access ladders

Defender’s wide range of equipment includes all the means of access discussed in AS 1657, in addition to all components (stabilising brackets, safety lines, guardrails, handrails, cages, intermediate platforms, lockable gates, access hatches, etc.) for a complete and safe height access system.

Get it done right, first time, for less. Defender equipment and installation is extraordinarily cost-effective. Why? Because smart design shouldn’t cost extra.

**CALL US TODAY ON 1300 013 794 TO ARRANGE A VISIT FROM A CERTIFIED DEFENDER™ CONSULTANT**
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Manufacture and installation specifications:

- Ladder, with the correct accessories to meet AS 1657, to be installed at a 75-degree (1 in 4) incline wherever possible (see figure 2.)
- The stile to be made of an unbroken length of aluminium to avoid points of weakness. Splicing is unacceptable.
- Brackets to be installed at correct intervals – at least every 2.4 metres – to maintain 250kg load rating.
- Ensure a minimum 200mm clearance behind rung ladders.
- Rungs, including the distance from the bottom rung to the landing, are to be equally spaced (see figure 3.)
- Rungs to be shaped to maximize foothold as proved in ergonomic research.
- Positive fixings will be used: never rivets or Tek screws for primary structural fixings. All are to be galvanized and never zinc coated.
- Provide slip resistance tests results confirming rungs are independently tested in a NATA laboratory (No. 2735) to meet outdoor slip rating of R10 on a wet oil ramp test.
- Rungs to be bolted, not welded, to the stiles, with additional mechanical fixings to provide redundancy, guaranteeing rungs won’t fail and dislodge from stiles.
- Labeled to ensure traceability, identify parties and to nominate the load rating of the system.

Testing

- Tested in a NATA-accredited laboratory to meet the nine mandatory AS 1657 tests for stile, rung, fixing, extended stile strength and durability.

Manufacture

- Manufactured by an independently audited ISO 9001 accredited facility, delivering consistent product with full traceability.

Documentation and labelling

- Comprehensive handover documentation allows the system to be properly managed by the workplace controller.
- Provides all of the user information, layouts and compliance labelling to meet AS 1657 safety requirements.

Installation

- Height safety installers demonstrate competency through training delivered by a registered training organisation.
- Independently accredited installation contractor to install the rung ladders.

Safe installation and fabrication

- Installation by a company independently certified to AS/NZS 4801 Standard for Health and Safety.

Management Systems

- Installation performed by organization independently certified to AS/NZS 4817 Standard for Health and Safety Management Systems.

Environmental accreditation

- Manufacture and construction to be conducted by an organisation independently certified to satisfy the ISO 14001 Environmental Management System standard recognizing the management of primary environmental issues.

Traceability

- Mark all rung ladders to provide full traceability to material batches.

Design

- System layout and design to be completed by an RTO-trained designer.

Rung Ladders

- Provide certification by a body independently accredited by SAI Global or equivalent to AS 1657.

Design Certification

- Issue a design certificate guaranteeing the system meets the requirements of the Code of Practice (Safe Design of Structures 2012).

Labelling

- Tag/label each rung ladder individually with a unique ID number specifying the manufacturer, installer, certifier and next inspection due date on a label that is capable of withstanding at least 12 months of weather exposure (see figure 1.)

Figure 1.

Figure 2. Figure 3. Rung Ladder Typical

Figure 4. Rung Ladder Parapet

Figure 5. Minimum dimensions and properties for components of access ladders - Rung Type

Figure 6. Rung Ladder through hatch opening

Figure 7. Ladder Fixings

Recommended designer, manufacturer, installer and certifier:

National fall prevention solutions

Telephone 1300 734 790
www.workplacewing.com.au