

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR LADDER

The Little Giant Defender is a Multi-Use ladder system made up of three major components: one inner ladder assembly and two outer ladder assemblies that telescope over the inner section. The inner and outer assemblies work together with the hinge locks and Rock Locks to adjust the ladder into different lengths and positions, including:



1. Extension
2. A-Frame stepladder
3. Trestle-and-plank scaffolding system (sold separately)
4. 90-degree (only used against a secure wall)
5. Staircase



**Little
Giant**
Ladder Systems

CLIMB ON



USER INSTRUCTIONS

Type IA 300 LBS Duty Rating

Thank you for purchasing the **Little Giant Defender™** - the next generation of the Little Giant Ladder System, designed for firefighters who need speed and strength in a rapid-response portable ladder system. The Defender is designed to fit existing storage spaces in most fire engines and is constructed of a special alloy that makes it lighter than any comparable industrial-rated ladder. The Defender includes our latest features; **Quad-Lock™** hinge, **Ratchet Levelers™**, and user-friendly **Rock Locks®**.

Please **don't ignore** the instructions, study them! Make the most of your Little Giant ladder system by learning how to use it safely. If you have any questions about how to operate your ladder system, please contact us. We value our customers and we're happy to help.

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Customer Service: 800-453-1192

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GENERAL OPERATION SAFETY TIPS

1. Do not force the hinges in or out using any tools. You may cause permanent damage to the hinge mechanism.
2. If there is pressure on the hinge lock pins, they may not open properly. Relieve the pressure by moving one half of the ladder back and forth until the hinge lock move with minimal force.
3. Make sure each Rock Lock is fully engaged into the appropriate rung tube before climbing on the ladder. Failure to do so may result in injury.
4. For your safety, set up your ladder so the rungs are always level from front to back and from side to side.
5. Keep clothing and body parts out of all moving mechanisms, including the Hinge Locks and Rock Locks to avoid pinching.
6. Keep clothing and body parts away from rungs when telescoping the outer ladder over the inner ladder.
7. Use caution when using the ladder around electricity. Ensure that the ladder does not come in contact with electrical circuits or currents.
8. The Defender has an OSHA and ANSI Type IA duty rating of 300 pounds (136 kg). Do not exceed the weight limit.
9. Do not stand above the third rung from the top.
10. Little Giant Ladder Systems assumes no liability for damage or injury that may result from improper use or improper setup.
11. Keep all ladder rungs, ladder feet, work platforms, and other standings and gripping surfaces clean and free from foreign materials.
12. Do not lean too far over the side of the ladder and keep both feet on the rungs at all times; as a rule of thumb, keep your navel between the rails.
13. Inspect feet for wear; replace them when necessary.
14. Read all labels on the ladder before use.

A-Frame and Staircase Ladder Safety Tips

1. Ensure that the Hinge Locks and Rock Locks are securely engaged before climbing your ladder.
2. Make each of your ladder's four feet are solidly planted before climbing.
3. When using your ladder on a stair case, ensure that the rungs are level and that each foot is on a solid, secure surface.

Extension Ladder Safety Tips

1. Do not allow the full weight of the ladder to fall on the hinges as the ladder folds from the extension to the A-frame position.
2. When releasing the Rock Locks, make sure you support the inner ladder assembly with one hand to prevent it from sliding down rapidly. Failure to do so may result in injury.
3. Use the proper angle for the extension ladder position. The distance from the base of the ladder to the bottom of the support wall should be one-fourth the working height of the extension ladder (minimum distance between ladder and support wall must be 3 feet (0.91 M)).
4. Fully engage the Hinge Lock before use, failure to do so may result in injury.
5. When using your Defender as a tall extension ladder, always stake the feet to the ground and tie down the top for extra security. Extend the ladder at least 3 feet (0.91 M) above a supporting roof or eave.

Scaffolding Safety Tips

1. Do not use outer or inner sections of the ladder as a separate stepladder.
2. When the scaffolding plank is above the third rung (three feet high, 0.91 m), it may be used as a work bench, but not as a standing platform.
3. ANSI rules state that the scaffolding plank should not be used as a standing platform at heights greater than three times the minimum width of the base section.
4. The scaffolding system has a one-man, 250-pound (113 kg) rating.
5. Only one person should be on the scaffold plank at a time.

Work Platform Safety Tips

1. If you purchased an optional Work Platform for your Defender, you can use it as an additional tool tray or as a standing platform.
2. Do not use the Work Platform as a standing platform above the third rung from the top, in either A-frame or extension configurations.
3. Make certain the Work Platform is secure on the rung before standing on it.

NFPA Compliance

The Little Giant Defender ladder system is designed to meet the requirements of NFPA 1931-2015, Standard for Manufacturer's Design of Fire Department Ground Ladders, and has been tested to the requirements of NFPA 1932-2015, Standard on Use, Maintenance, and Service Testing of In-Service Fire Department Ground Ladders.

Little Giant's Defender ladders meets the requirements of NFPA 1901-2009, Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus, section 5.7.1.3 for pumpers, section 8.7.5 for ladder trucks, and section 9.7.1.3 for quints.

Insurance Services Office

The Little Giant Defender Ladder meets ISO requirements for credit on pumper and ladder apparatus.



For additional safety training visit www.laddersafety.org

Register Your Limited Warranty

The Defender is offered with a lifetime warranty against manufacturer defects. Register your warranty within 30 days after receipt of the product. You may register your product by going online to www.LittleGiantLadders.com/registration or by completely filling out the warranty card and mailing it in.