



GROUND LADDER OPERATIONS – SINGLE PERSON CARRY AND RAISE (1.1)

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December 2009

- NFPA 1001
- NFPA 1932

TASK SKILL DESCRIPTION AND DETAIL

The ground ladder is one of the most effective and versatile tools on the fire ground. The completion of the strategic goals and tactical objectives is often dependent upon the timely placement of ground ladders to facilitate ventilation, rescue, emergency egress, ingress to upper levels/exposures, salvage, and hose line operations. Firefighters must be proficient in the basic skills of operating with ground ladders, as well as understand the general application of each ground ladder that LFR utilizes.

Task #1 – Single Person Carry/Raise of an extension ladder that is 28' or less in length

#1 Locate the center of the ladder (balance point). It is common practice within LFR to carry the ground ladder in a high-shoulder carry (see below) when conducting single person ladder operations.



Figure 1 Locating the center when you are starting from the apparatus



Figure 2 and 3: Locating the center when you are starting from the ground



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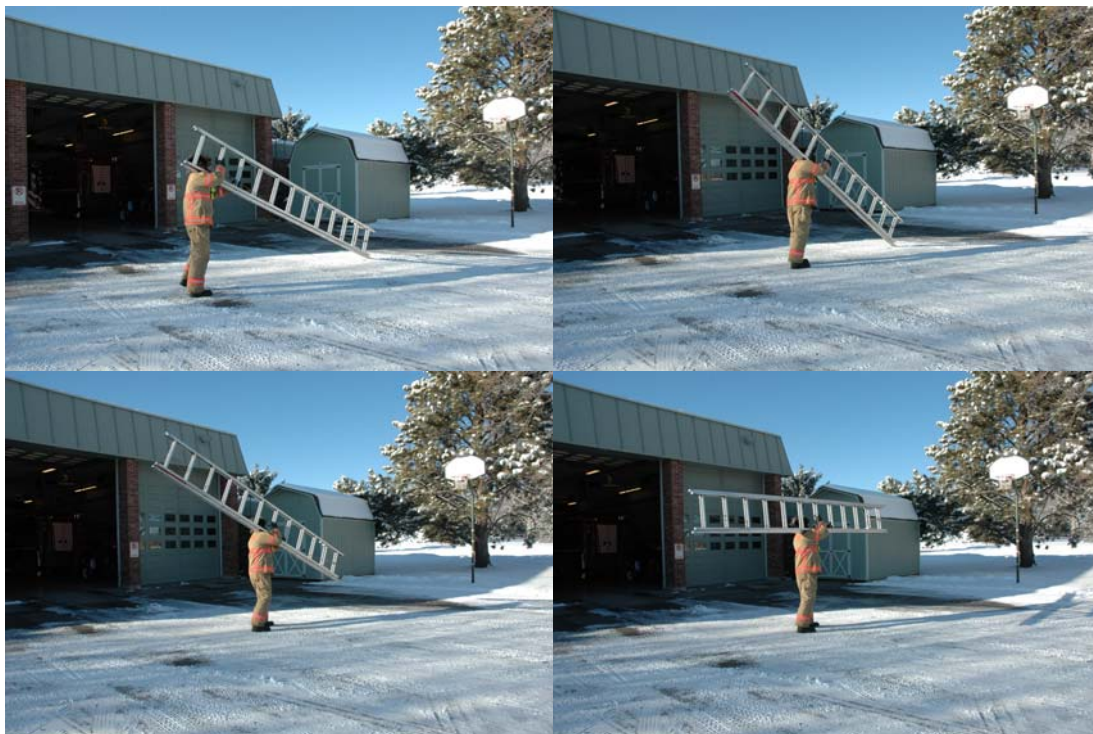


Figure 3, Figure 4, Figure 5, and Figure 6: Locating the center when starting from the ground

- #2 Move the ladder into position in a high shoulder carry. The bottom beam will rest on the firefighter's shoulder as it is carried. Carry the ladder to the placement location. Note the hand position – one high and one low to stabilize the ladder.





- #3 Check for overhead obstructions before raising the ladder. Place the butt end of the ladder on the ground approximately 3-4' from the building. The fly section may be away from the building or towards the building.



- #4 Slightly bend the knees while extending the arms so the ladder will pivot into a vertical position (firefighter serves as a fulcrum for the ladder)





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- #5 Place one foot against the butt of the beam to brace the ladder. Place both elbows approximately shoulder height to assist with forward/backward control of the ladder.



- #6 Use a controlled hand over hand method to extend the ladder to the proper height. Ensure the dogs are locked once the extension is completed.





- #7 Place the ladder into the building (fly section out). Rotate the ladder if the fly section was placed towards the building.



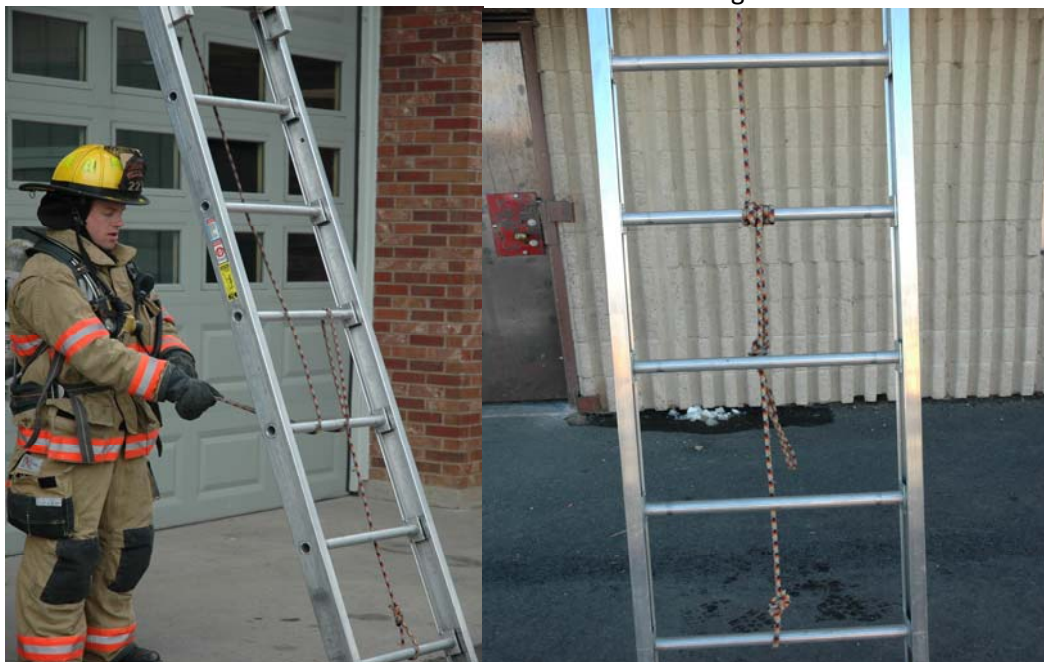
Figure 16 and 17: Controlled placement of the ground ladder



Figure 18, 19, and 20: Rotating the ladder so the fly section is away from the building



- #8 Tie off the halyard in a clove hitch and a safety knot if length of rope allows. Place the halyard in the center of the ladder so it reduces the chance of interfering with the feet.





- #9 Adjust the ladder to the proper climbing angle. The key is to lift with your legs when placing the ladder in position.



- #10 Heel the ladder (if necessary). Note: Hands are off set and on the side of the beam when heeling the ladder. Hands that are wrapped around the front of the ladder will be injured if the fly section unexpectedly comes down.

