

# Ladders

## **Objective**

These ladder exercises are intended to combine basic safety checks, periodic inspection and maintenance checks as well as familiarization with the equipment.

## **Background/Guidance**

In some training sessions, the ladder should be removed from the truck, inspected and maintained if necessary. Any inspection or maintenance is to be documented in the supplied log. Most of the training sessions will use “Performance Standard Skill Sheets” that are currently in use by the New Mexico Firefighters Training Academy for certification.

## **Preparation & Equipment**

Ladder(s)

## **Note**

The “Performance Standard Skill Sheet” is intended only as a guide for the exercise. Read the front and backside of the sheet before working through the exercise. It is worthwhile to consider the timing requirements and test yourself occasionally. Please do not write on the skill sheets.

## **Training Session #1 – Inspection and Maintenance Procedures of Ladders**

- Work through the Performance Standard Skill Sheet titled ‘Fire Service Ladders #1 – Inspection and Maintenance Procedures of Ladders
- Review the Inspection and Maintenance Log
  - Use the log to determine if a ladder on either of the trucks has not been inspected in more than six (6) months
  - Choose the ladder on the truck which has the oldest inspection date
  - Follow the skill sheet procedures and then document in the log any inspection and maintenance completed

## **Training Session #2 – Techniques of Cleaning Ladders**

- Work through the Performance Standard Skill Sheet titled ‘Fire Service Ladders #9 – Techniques of Cleaning Ladders
- Review the Inspection and Maintenance Log
  - Use the log to determine if a ladder on either of the trucks has not been cleaned in more than six (6) months
  - Choose the ladder on the truck which has the old inspection date
  - Follow the skill sheet procedures and then in the log any inspection and maintenance completed

## **Reference Source:**

Essentials of Fire Fighting, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Chapter 9  
New Mexico Firefighters Training Academy Skill Sheets



**NEW MEXICO FIREFIGHTERS TRAINING  
ACADEMY**

**FIREFIGHTER I**

*Performance Standard Skill Sheet*

***FIRE SERVICE LADDERS #1***

*Inspection and Maintenance Procedures of Ladders*

**PERFORMANCE STANDARD**

**NFPA 1001 3-5.3**

**OBJECTIVE**

The firefighter trainee shall identify, describe and demonstrate inspection and maintenance techniques of different types of ground ladders. The trainee shall accomplish the task in 5 minutes or less.

**INSTRUCTIONS – Procedures for Achieving the Objective**

You will explain and demonstrate the proper techniques for inspection and maintenance of ladders. You will have a maximum of 5 minutes to complete this task. You will begin on my instruction to start. The task will end when you state to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

**EXAMINERS NOTE**

The firefighter trainee will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of testing.

**PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT**

Extension ladder

**REFERENCE SOURCE**

IFSTA, Fire Service Ground Ladder Practices, 8th Edition

IFSTA, Essentials of Firefighting, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition

Delmar, Thompson Learning, Firefighters Handbook: Essentials of Firefighting and Emergency Response

**NEW MEXICO FIREFIGHTERS TRAINING ACADEMY  
FIREFIGHTER I  
Performance Standard Skill Sheet**

**FIRE SERVICE LADDERS #1  
Inspection and Maintenance Procedures of Ladders**

<b>FGID #:</b>	<b>DATE:</b>
<b>Trainee ID #:</b>	<b>Notes:</b>
<b>Program:</b>	
<b>Test Site:</b>	
<b>Evaluator:</b>	

**IF THE FIREFIGHTER TRAINEE:**

- a. Checks for signs of physical damage (cracks, splintering, warping, discoloration, bending, dents, etc.).
- b. Tests rungs for tightness by twisting them.
- c. Checks for bent beams and rungs.
- d. Checks halyard for frays, cuts or bunching.
- e. Checks halyard for snugness and freedom of movement.
- f. Checks for free-turning pulleys.
- g. Checks heat sensor for signs of heat exposure.
- h. Checks dogs or pawls for freedom of movement and operation.
- i. Checks condition of guides and free movement of fly sections.
- j. Checks rivets, welds, and bolted connections for tightness.
- k. Checks for any unusual wear.
- l. Checks ladder for cleanliness.
- m. *Verbally states that ladders should be inspected monthly and after each use.*
- n. Completes skill in allotted time.

(No Partial Points Given)	
POINTS POSSIBLE	POINTS EARNED
1.0	
1.0	
1.0	
1.0	
1.0	
1.0	
1.0	
1.0	
1.0	
1.0	
1.0	
1.0	
1.0	
4.0	

Allotted time for this skill: 5 minutes      Time: \_\_\_\_\_ minutes

**TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE:**

**TOTAL POINTS NEEDED TO PASS:**

**TOTAL POINTS SCORED BY THIS CANDIDATE:**

seconds	
17.0	
12.0	

**PERFORMANCE RATING OF TRAINEE ON THIS SKILL:**       **PASS**       **FAIL**



**NEW MEXICO FIREFIGHTERS TRAINING  
ACADEMY**

**FIREFIGHTER I**

*Performance Standard Skill Sheet*

**FIRE SERVICE LADDERS #9**

*Techniques of Cleaning Ladders*

**PERFORMANCE STANDARD**

**NFPA 1001 3-5.3**

**OBJECTIVE**

The firefighter trainee shall identify, describe and demonstrate techniques of cleaning ladders.

**INSTRUCTIONS - Procedures for Achieving the Objective**

You will verbally explain and demonstrate the proper technique of cleaning fire service ladders. You shall verbalize each task as it is being performed. You will begin on my instruction to start. The task will end when you state to me that you have completed the entire above-identified task. Do you understand these instructions?

**EXAMINERS NOTE**

The firefighter trainee will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of testing.

**PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT**

24-foot or 35-foot extension ladder  
Soapy water  
Brush  
Waterproof grease

**REFERENCE SOURCE**

IFSTA, Fire Service Ground Ladder Practices, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition  
IFSTA, Essentials of Firefighting, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition  
Delmar, Thompson Learning, Firefighters Handbook: Essentials of Firefighting and Emergency Response

**NEW MEXICO FIREFIGHTERS TRAINING ACADEMY**

**FIREFIGHTER I**

*Performance Standard Skill Sheet*

**FIRE SERVICE LADDERS #9**

*Techniques of Cleaning Ladders*

<b>FGID #:</b>	<b>DATE:</b>
<b>Trainee ID #:</b>	<b>Notes:</b>
<b>Program:</b>	
<b>Test Site:</b>	
<b>Evaluator:</b>	

**IF THE FIREFIGHTER TRAINEE:**

- o. Thoroughly removes dirt from ladder with soapy water and a brush.
- p. Examines all braces, slides, stop locks, halyard, rivets, pulleys and moveable parts.
- q. Checks lubrication of moveable parts.
- r. Makes notation of any loose parts, cracks, dry rot, or unusual wear.
- s. Thoroughly dries the ladder and *verbally states that the ladder should be lubricated according to the manufacturer's recommendations.*

(No Partial Points Given)	
POINTS POSSIBLE	POINTS EARNED
1.0	
2.0	
1.0	
1.0	
1.0	

**TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE:**

**TOTAL POINTS NEEDED TO PASS:**

**TOTAL POINTS SCORED BY THIS CANDIDATE:**

<b>6.0</b>	
<b>4.0</b>	

**PERFORMANCE RATING OF TRAINEE ON THIS SKILL:**  **PASS**

**FAIL**