Placement of the Ladder

Three common locations where ladders will be used in performing telecommunications work will be reviewed in this section they include:

On building walls for access to lock boxes, e.g., drilling locations and placement of cable under eves.

On poles to gain access to taps/drops.

On mid-spans to gain access to taps/drops.

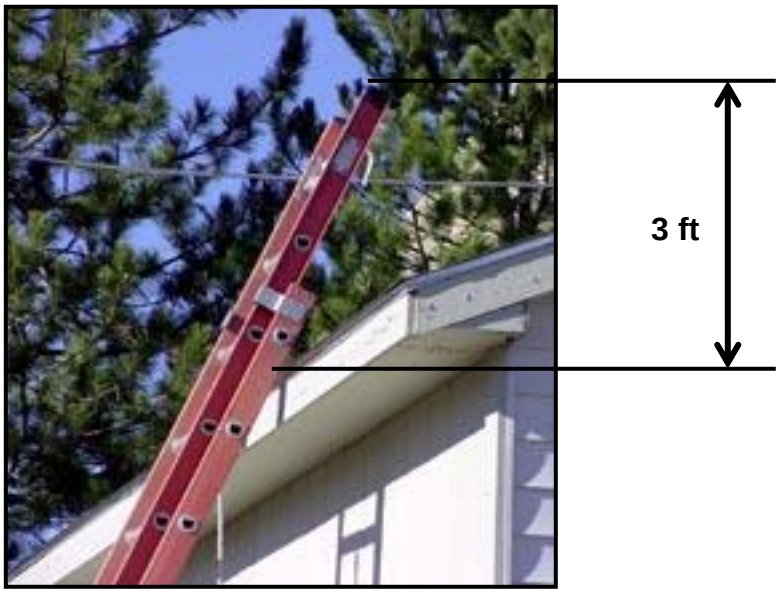
The hooks of the ladder must rest on the strand wire of the client, never the Telco or power company or other service provider.

Wall Placement of Extension Ladders

If the ladder extends higher than the roof, the ladder must extend at least 3 feet above the point the ladder is resting.

The feet of the ladder must be properly used. Rubber for concrete and other hard surface pavements, or saw teeth feet for grass, gravel, dirt, snow, and ice.

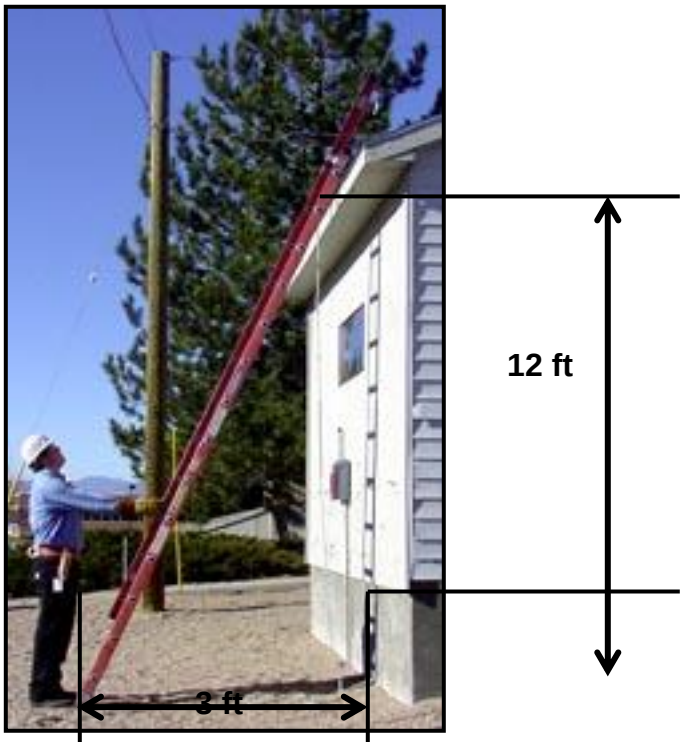
Extend ladder three (3) feet above the point it is resting at the roof level.



Wall Placement of Extension Ladder (continued)

Ladders should be placed in a position where the horizon0tal distance from the top support to the foot of the ladder is 1/4 of the working length of the ladder. **(This is referred to as the 1/4 Rule)**

This means that for every four feet you go vertically, the ladder should extend one foot horizontally. (See example below.)



The ladder is 12 feet vertical from the ground to the top support.
Therefore, the base of the ladder is 3 feet out horizontally from the wall.

Pole Placement of Extension Ladders

The 1/4 Rule also applies to the placement of ladders on poles.
(For every 4 feet up, ladder should angle 1 foot out.)

A pole v-grip should be used on ladders to secure the ladder to the pole. If no v-grip is available, you should lash the ladder to the pole at the top.

V-Grip supported against pole to prevent turning.

- Use proper feet placement (rubber feet for hard surfaces, teeth for sand, dirt, gravel, and ice).

Placement of Extension Ladder on Mid-span

The 1/4 rule also applies to mid-span placement.

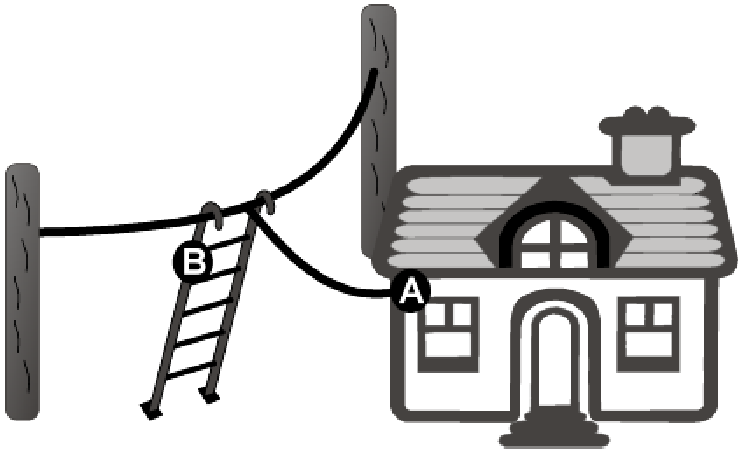
Place strand hooks on or within one hook diameter above the strand.

Make sure feet are properly set.

Protect base of ladder from traffic or pedestrians.

If you are replacing a drop, cut the drop at the house first.

Position ladder so you are facing house where drop was disconnected.



(A) Disconnect drop from house first.

(B) Place ladder facing house where drop was disconnected.

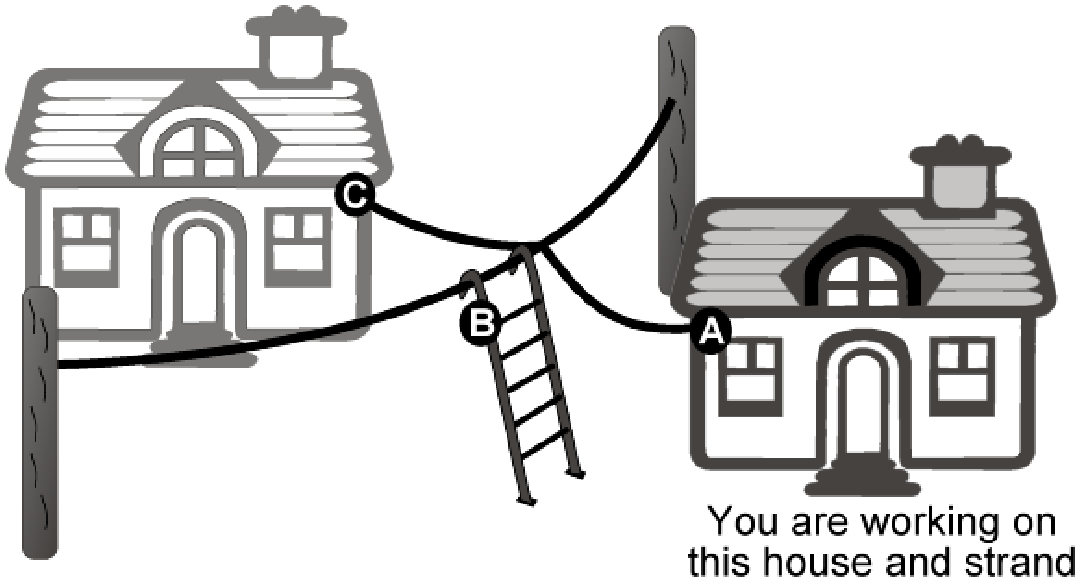
Placement of Extension Ladder on Mid-span (continued)

Working on a mid-span with two opposing drops

Be aware of multiple drops connected to the tap. If you encounter this situation other precautions may be required such as:

If another attached drop goes to a house opposite the one you are working on, you can disconnect it at the other customer's house or

After disconnecting the one you are working on at the house, place the ladder towards the house with the opposite drop.



Procedures for Working on a mid-span with two opposing drops:

1) Disconnect drop from the house you are working on (A).
2) Place ladder on strand facing opposite house (C)
3) Place new drop at tap (B), then to house.

The goal is to eliminate tension on the strand that can cause you to be flung from the ladder.

IMPORTANT: This procedure is an exception to the NORMAL method of how you place the ladder. If there is only one drop on the tap, and it is the one you are working on, make sure you disconnect at the house first and then place the ladder towards the house you are working on!