

**CLIMB ON**

## USER INSTRUCTIONS

Thank you for purchasing the **Little Giant Dark Horse™** — the next generation of the Little Giant Ladder System. The Dark Horse combines the versatility and safety of the original Little Giant Ladder System with the latest features, including fade-resistance black fiberglass, and simple, user-friendly **Rock Locks™**.

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

## GETTING TO KNOW YOUR LADDER

The Little Giant Dark Horse 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 the Rock Locks to adjust the ladder into different lengths and positions, including:

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



# GENERAL OPERATING 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 locks 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 Dark Horse model 13 has an OSHA and ANSI Type IAA duty rating of 375 pounds. The Dark Horse model 17 and model 22 have an OSHA and ANSI Type IA duty rating of 300 pounds. For your safety, do not exceed the weight limit.
9. Do not stand above the third rung from top.
10. Little Giant Ladder Systems assumes no liability for damage or injury that may result from failing to follow all instructions correctly.
11. Keep all ladder rungs, ladder feet, work platforms, and other standing 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 Hinge Locks and 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).
4. Fully engage the Hinge Locks and Rock Locks before use, failure to do so may result in injury.
5. When using your Dark Horse as a tall extension ladder, stake the feet to the ground and tie down the top for extra security. Extend the ladder at least 3 feet 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. Be sure to set the two outer ladder assemblies with the rungs facing out with the trestle brackets properly engaged.
3. When the scaffolding plank is above the third rung (three feet high), it may be used as a work bench, but not as a standing platform.
4. 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.
5. The scaffolding system has a one-man, 250-pound rating.
4. Only one person should be on the scaffold plank at a time.

## Work Platform Safety Tips

1. If you purchased a Work Platform for your Dark Horse, 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 and extension configurations.
3. Make certain the Work Platform is secure on the rung before standing on it.



For additional safety training visit [www.laddersafety.org](http://www.laddersafety.org)



SCAN THE CODE TO VIEW INSTRUCTION & SAFETY VIDEO

## Register Your Warranty

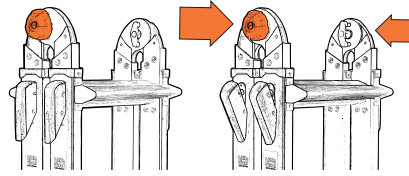
The Dark Horse ladder is offered with a one-year warranty against manufacturer defects. Register your warranty within 30 days after receipt of the product. You may register your product by going online to [www.LittleGiantLadders.com/registration](http://www.LittleGiantLadders.com/registration) or by completely filling out the warranty card and mailing it in.

# DARK HORSE

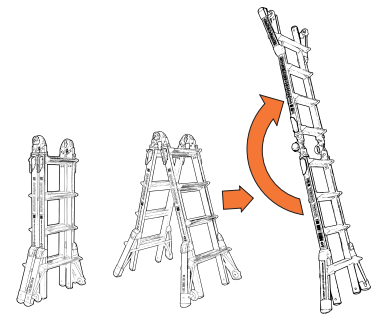
## LADDER OPERATION

### Palm Button

Change your ladder's shape.



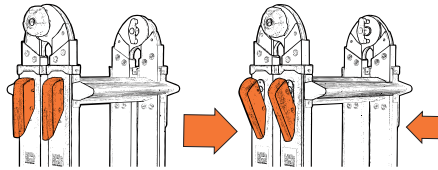
Push the Palm Buttons in to release the hinge locks.



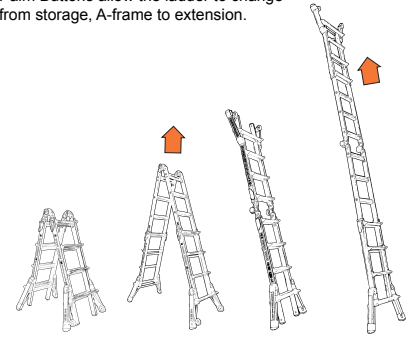
The Palm Buttons allow the ladder to change from storage, A-frame to extension.

### Rock Locks™

Change your ladder's height.

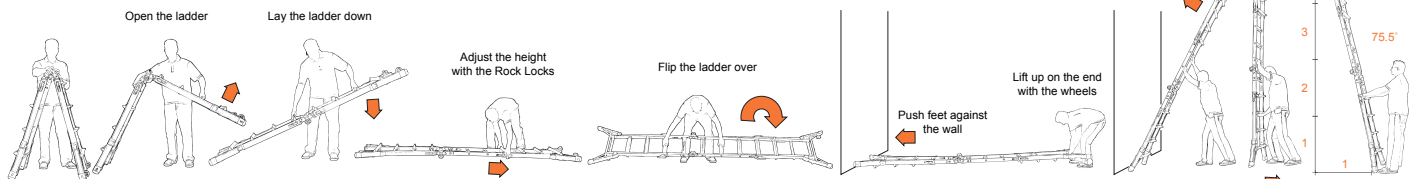


The Rock Locks adjust the height of ladder. Push in on the bottom of the Rock Lock to open, tap the Rock Lock to close. Unlock only one Rock Lock at a time while supporting the inner ladder assembly with one hand. Do not unlock the Rock Lock if anyone is on the ladder.



Adjust to the desired height.

## Extension



Starting from the small A-frame position; open and lock your ladder to the extension position and lay the ladder face up on ground. Unlock the Rock Locks and extend the top outer section first; the top outer section must be fully extended before the lower outer section is extended. (If your ladder has wheels, the wheels must be placed so they are at the top of the extension.) Once you have extended the outer sections to the desired height, lock the Rock Locks. Always double check the two hinge locks and four Rock Locks to make sure they are fully locked and engaged.

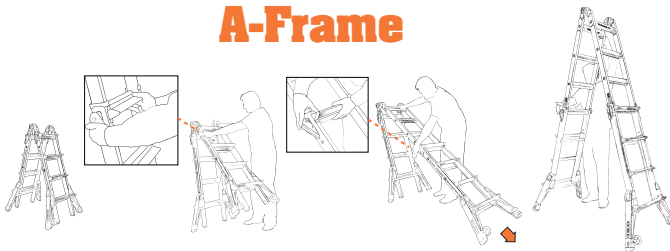
Next, flip the ladder over to a face-down position. Place the feet of the ladder against a solid wall to keep the ladder from moving. Lift the other end of the ladder, and walk the ladder hand over hand one rung at a time until you are able to lean the ladder against the wall.

Lift the base of the ladder and carefully move the base away from the wall until the ladder leans at a 75.5 degree angle. The distance from the ladder's base to the base of the support wall must be 1/4 the working length of the ladder; i.e., 1 foot out from the wall for every 4 feet in ladder height. Ladder

must be extended approximately 3 feet above a roof line or working surface.

To take the ladder down from the extension position, lift the base of the ladder and carefully move it to the wall to brace the feet of the ladder. Slowly walk the ladder down hand over hand one rung at a time until you are able to lay the ladder on the ground. Flip the ladder over so it faces up. Unlock the Rock Locks and telescope each outer section to the rung nearest to the hinges, then lock the Rock Locks. Push in the Palm Buttons and return to the small A-frame position.

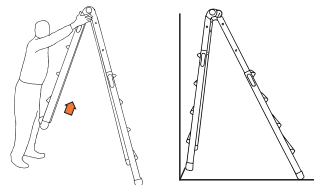
## A-Frame



Begin from the small A-frame position. Stand to one side of the ladder; unlock both Rock Locks on one outer section. When extending the ladder your hands must always be on the outside of the outer section. Place one hand on the palm button and push the inner section away from you to extend the height. Once you have reached the desired height; line up the inner ladder and the outer ladder rungs, place your hand under the rungs then lock both Rock Locks.

Next, unlock the Rock Locks on the opposite outer section. Place one hand on the palm button and push up on the inner section to extend the height. Once you have reached the desired height; line up the inner ladder and the outer ladder rungs, place your hand under the rungs then lock both Rock Locks.

## 90°



From the tall A-frame position reduce the height on one side of the ladder by one foot. Make sure the ladder is on a flat level surface and the short side of the ladder is against a secure wall.

## Staircase



Start from the small A-frame position, lengthen the down side of the ladder to the desired height. Ensure the ladder rungs are level before using.

## Scaffolding

Remove the outer sections. Attach the trestle brackets (sold separately). Insert the plank at desired height. Do not stand on the plank above 3 feet. Never use either trestle as a stepladder.

