Fire Escape Ladders

If you live in a multi-story home, a portable ladder could save your life. When needed, hook the top portion of the ladder over the window sill and drop the rest out the window. Make sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions.



What to look for

- Standoffs—these are protrusions that hold the ladder rungs away from the side of the house.
- Load limit—ladder should be rated for at least 1,000 pounds.
- Adequate height—usually 15 feet for two story and 25 feet for three story buildings.

- Fire escape ladders can be purchased online or at most hardware stores.
- After purchasing the ladder, make sure it fits the specific window for which it is intended.
- Have the person who the ladder is meant for practice deploying it and using it.
- Make sure they can reach and access where it is stored.
- Know where the ladder is stored and how to use it.
- Have two ways out of every room.
- If that requires a ladder, be prepared, purchase it now.

Practice! Practice! Practice!