

**BRANACH**  
SAFETY. OUR WAY OF LIFE



# User Instructions





# General Information

## User Instructions

The owner of this ladder/platform must ensure that the User Instructions are available to the user. It is available to download from our website, **branach.com.au**.

This equipment should only be used by a trained and competent person, otherwise the user should be under the direct supervision of a trained and competent person.

The User Instructions cover the following products:

### Safety Step Platforms

- All Terrain Platform: FPW-AT 0.9–3.6
- WorkMaster 450mm Step Platform: FPL 0.6–3.6
- WorkMaster 550mm Step Platform: FPW 0.6–3.6
- CorrosionMaster 550mm Step Platform: FPS 0.6–3.6

### Extension & Single Ladders

- Fall Control System: FED-FC 4.0–8.8
- PowerMaster Extension: FED 4.0–9.8, FED-TE 4.0–9.8 (with TerrainMaster), FED-CL 4.0–9.8 (with Conventional Latch)
- PowerMaster Single: FND 2.4–5.5

### Fall Control System (FED-FC)

- This product utilises a C.A.M.P S.P.A. BLIN KIT (Ref.256502) which is in conformity with the provisions of Council Directive 89/686/EEC and with the EN 353-2:2002 standard.
- The user must read both the User Instructions and C.A.M.P Instructions provided. The distributor must ensure that they are both provided with every Fall Control System.

## Before Use

- Inspect the ladder after delivery.
- Visually check the ladder and accessories are undamaged and safe to use before every use. Do not use a damaged ladder. Organise repair by an authorised person.
- Ensure you are fit enough to use a ladder, and the ladder is suitable for the task.
- Before use, the user should make themselves aware of the working at height regulations applicable to their location and working environment.
- Regular, periodic inspections are required.



Figure 1A



Figure 1B

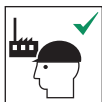


Figure 1C



Figure 1D

**FIGURE 1A.** The user of the ladder must refer to this instruction manual before using the ladder.

**FIGURE 1B.** Indicates the maximum number of users allowed.

**FIGURE 1C & 1D.** These ladders are suitable for professional and domestic use.

## Inspection Before Use

As a minimum, the following items should be inspected before every use, or after the ladder is dropped or impacted.

### General

- Cracked or damaged fibreglass rails.
- Damaged or missing steps/rungs.
- Damaged feet and rope.
- All rivets and bolts are in place.
- The ladder inspection date has not passed.
- The entire ladder is free from contaminants such as dirt, oil, grease, paint, etc.

### Safety Step Platforms

- Platform deck is operating freely.
- Rear safety rail is operating correctly.

### Extension & Single Ladders

- Guide Brackets are not missing or damaged.

### Accessories

- Descender Locking Latch on the Fall Control System is working and not damaged or loose.
- Tether Rope or fixtures are not damaged or frayed.
- Safety Harness is compliant.

**DO NOT USE THE LADDER AND FALL CONTROL DEVICE IF ALL ITEMS HAVE NOT PASSED THE INSPECTION PROCESS. ORGANISE REPAIR BY AN AUTHORISED PERSON.**

## System Guidelines

### General

- The maximum total load for all ladders is 150kg, including tools and equipment, except the Fall Control System which is 120kg.

### Safety Step Platforms

- Platform deck must engage to rung.
- Before doing any work from the platform, the rear safety rail must be engaged if fitted.

### Extension & Single Ladders

- If using the ladder for pole work, the top lash must always be secured around the pole.
- If transitioning from the ladder system to a pole, a work procedure must cover this process.

### Fall Control System (FED-FC)

- The maximum total load **without** fall control device, including tools and equipment: 150kg.
- The maximum total load **with** fall control device, including tools and equipment: 120kg. The maximum load of the system may be limited by the rating on the harness. The fall control device supplied with this system is rated to 120kg.
- System must always be tethered to prevent the risk of ladder slip back.
- Before doing any work from the ladder, the user must attach the work positioning hook to the nearest rung eyelet to constrain the rope line.
- DO NOT USE A LANYARD BETWEEN HARNESS AND ROPE GRAB.

### TerrainMaster

- TerrainMaster legs must always be deployed to their widest position allowing for 300mm +/-15mm step height to ground.

# Using the Ladder



Figure 2A



Figure 2B

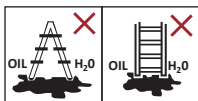


Figure 2C

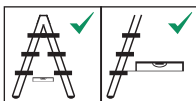


Figure 2D



Figure 2E



Figure 2F



Figure 2G



Figure 2H



Figure 2I



Figure 2J



Figure 2K



Figure 2L

## General

- Do not exceed the maximum total load for the ladder (refer to the ladder label).
- Be especially cautious of wind when outside.
- Use non-conductive ladders for unavoidable live electrical work.
- Take precautions against children playing on the ladder.
- Face, and keep a secure grip on, the ladder when ascending and descending.
- At all times maintain 3 points of contact unless work positioning hook is engaged.
- Maintain a handhold whilst working or take additional safety precautions if you cannot.
- Wear suitable foot wear when climbing a ladder.
- Avoid excessive side loadings (e.g. drilling brick/concrete).
- Equipment carried while using a ladder should be light and easy to handle.
- Do not spend long periods on a ladder without breaks (fatigue is a serious risk).
- Do not move the ladder when standing on it, or from the top.

**FIGURE 2A.** Do not use the ladder on an unfirm or unstable base. If you are not sure, STOP. DO NOT RISK YOUR SAFETY.

**FIGURE 2B.** Do not overreach. **Safety Step Platforms:** Keep both feet on the platform deck throughout the task. **Extension & Single Ladders:** Keep your belt-buckle/ navel inside the rails and both feet on the same step/rung throughout the task.

**FIGURE 2C.** Do not erect ladder on heavily contaminated ground.

**FIGURE 2D.** Ladders with steps/rungs should be used so that the steps/rungs are in a level, horizontal position.

### Safety Step Platforms

**FIGURE 2E.** Ensure the platform deck has fully engaged the rung when lowering deck into position.

### Extension & Single Ladders

- Do not use the ladder as a bridge.
- Secure the top and/or bottom of the ladder if possible.
- Ensure top of the ladder makes contact with a structure that is in good condition.

### Fall Control System (FED-FC)

- Secure the ladder to a ground or wall fixing.

**FIGURE 2F.** To ensure correct angle, use the angle indicator marked on the rail and/or the level-bubble in the TerrainMaster base.

**FIGURE 2G.** Ladders used for access to a higher level shall be extended at least 1 metre above the landing point and secured if necessary.

**FIGURE 2H.** Only use the ladder in the direction indicated.

**FIGURE 2I.** Do not lean the ladder against unsuitable surfaces. For pole work use a Branch Pole Strap or Pole Chain combined with a Top Lash.

**FIGURE 2J.** Do not stand on the top 3 steps/rungs of a leaning ladder.

**FIGURES 2K.** Ensure the latch has fully engaged the rung when extending the ladder. If the latch is not parallel with the ladder, adjust so it is engaged fully.

### TerrainMaster

- Always use with TerrainMaster feet in an open position.

**FIGURE 2L.** Do not exceed the level the TerrainMaster can operate in (15° slope). Use the built-in level bubble or spirit level to ensure the platform ladder steps are level.

# Positioning and Erecting the Ladder

## General

- The ladder should be extended with the rungs or treads level with the ground.
- The ladder must be erected on a firm, unmovable surface with a maximum gradient of 15°.
- When positioning the ladder, take into account the risk of collision with the ladder (e.g. from pedestrians, vehicles or doors).
- Identify any electrical risks in the work area, such as overhead lines or other exposed electrical equipment.
- The ladder should be stood on both feet; not supported on the rungs or steps.
- Ladders should not be positioned on slippery surfaces—such as ice, shiny surfaces or significantly contaminated solid surfaces—unless additional effective measures are taken to prevent the ladder slipping or ensuring contaminated surfaces are sufficiently clean.

## Safety Step Platforms

- It is recommended that the platform ladder is positioned on level ground or deploy the TerrainMaster legs to ensure level bubble is within circle.

## Extension & Single Ladders

- It is recommended that the ladder is positioned at the correct working angle of 75°.
- To ensure correct angle, use the angle indicator marked on the rail and/or the level-bubble in the TerrainMaster base. This position is often referred to the 4:1 rule where the feet of the ladder are one unit out from the vertical contact surface for every 4 units measured vertically to the point of contact of the ladder to the vertical surface.



# Storage / Care

## General

- It is recommended that ladders be stored away from direct sunlight, excessive heat, dampness or exposure to the elements.
- Store the ladder in a safe place where it cannot be damaged by vehicles, heavy objects or contaminants.
- Store the ladder securely so it does not become a trip hazard or obstruction, and cannot fall and injure people.
- When storing ladders, give consideration for preventing use by criminals for gaining unauthorised access, and ensure children and the general public cannot climb the ladder.
- Repairs and maintenance should be carried out by a competent person who has been qualified by Branach in accordance with Branach's instructions and procedures. Only use Branach recommended components and fasteners.

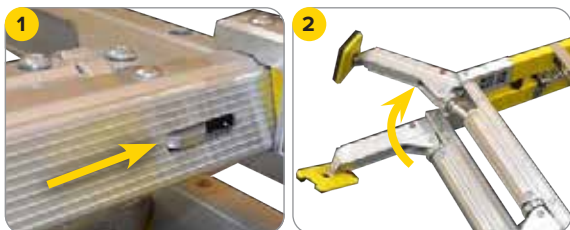
## Fall Control System (FED-FC)

- Disconnect tether system from structure and store back on ladder, tensioning tethers so ropes are not loose.
- Remove the life-line rope using the release lever to remove any tension in the rope and store rope in provided rope bag.
- Attach rope bag to ladder or store in vehicle.

# TerrainMaster

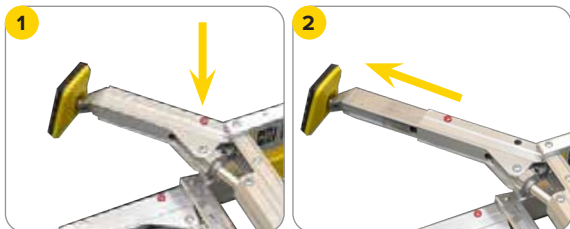
## 1. TerrainMaster Deployment

Slide the leg-lock latch towards the outside of the platform ladder.



## 2. Extend TerrainMaster

- 1 Extend the TerrainMaster legs to their widest setting.
- 2 Depress the front and rear leg buttons to extend the leg.
- 3 Check that the lock buttons re-engage in the extended leg position.



### 3. Levelling

- 1 Adjust the TerrainMaster step height to be similar to step distance.
- 2 Un-weight the TerrainMaster leg to remove any spring tension.
- 3 Wind the leg adjuster wheel until a 2.5cm (approximate) gap is formed between the latch and the adjuster wheel.

#### NOTES

- Final adjustments to TerrainMaster will be made once ladder is erected.
- Final result should be 300mm +/- 15mm step height from the ground.
- Screw turn wheel needs to be wound back to original position to lock the legs closed during storage.

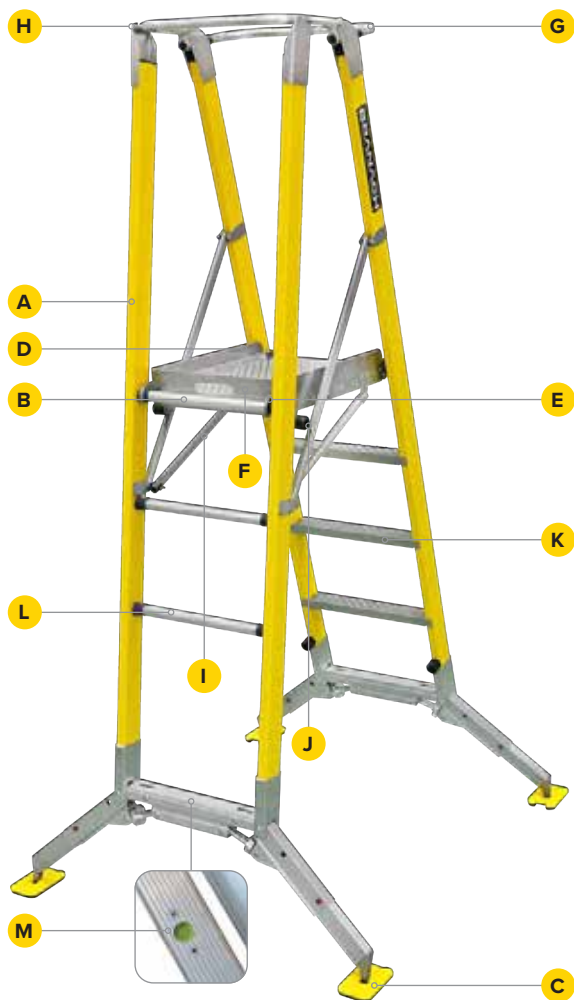


### 4. Check Incline & Step Height

- 1 Use level bubble to ensure platform ladder is at correct angle, and level to terrain accordingly. Adjust TerrainMaster wheels to ensure platform ladder level.
- 2 Ensure there is a 300mm +/-15mm step from ground to first rung.



# All Terrain Step Platform (FPW-AT)



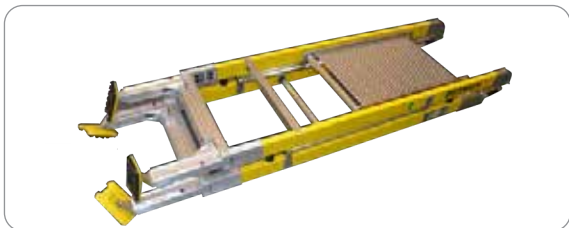
## Glossary

- |                             |                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>A</b> Stiles             | <b>H</b> Brackets        |
| <b>B</b> Rungs              | <b>I</b> Rods and Struts |
| <b>C</b> Feet               | <b>J</b> Spacer          |
| <b>D</b> Platform Deck      | <b>K</b> Step Plates     |
| <b>E</b> Platform Hooks     | <b>L</b> Rear Step       |
| <b>F</b> Platform Kickboard | <b>M</b> Level Bubble    |
| <b>G</b> Handrail           |                          |



## Initial Set Up

Take platform from vehicle and lay on the ground.  
See page 14 for opening and closing of platform.



## Summary

Ensure work area is safe.

**1 Inspect:** Before use

**2 Level:** Use level bubble

**3 Stabilise:** TerrainMaster

**4 Enclose:** Rear Safety Rail



# WorkMaster 450mm & 550mm Step Platform (FPL & FPW)

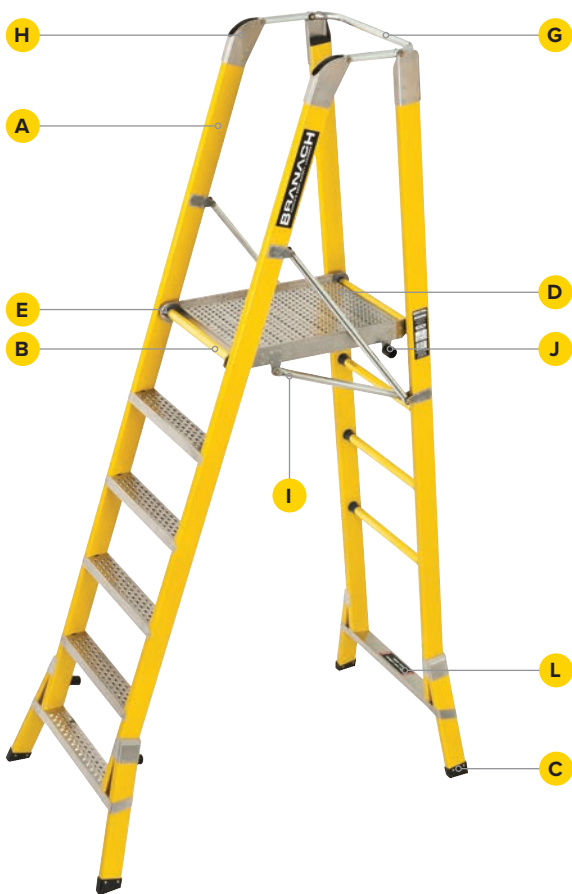


## Glossary

- |                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>A</b> Stiles         | <b>H</b> Brackets        |
| <b>B</b> Rungs          | <b>I</b> Rods and Struts |
| <b>C</b> Feet           | <b>J</b> Spacer          |
| <b>D</b> Platform Deck  | <b>K</b> Step Plates     |
| <b>E</b> Platform Hooks | <b>L</b> Rear Step       |
| <b>G</b> Handrail       |                          |



# CorrosionMaster 550mm Step Platform (FPS)



## Glossary

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>A</b> Stiles           | <b>H</b> Brackets        |
| <b>B</b> Fibreglass Rungs | <b>I</b> Rods and Struts |
| <b>C</b> Feet             | <b>J</b> Spacer          |
| <b>D</b> Platform Deck    | <b>K</b> Step Plates     |
| <b>E</b> Platform Hooks   | <b>L</b> Rear Step       |
| <b>G</b> Handrail         |                          |



GENERAL

TERRAINMASTER

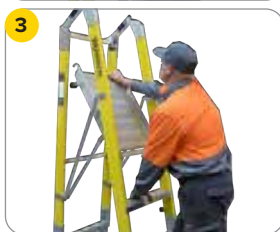
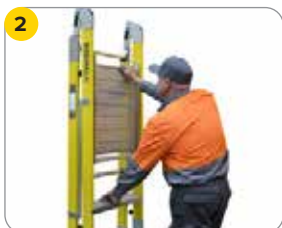
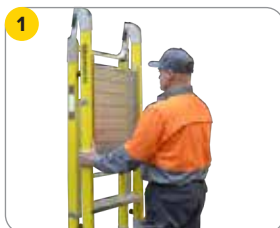
SAFETY STEP PLATFORMS

FALL CONTROL SYSTEM

EXTENSION & SINGLE LADDERS

## Opening the Platform Ladder

- 1 Hold the ladder upright while facing the deck.
- 2 Place one hand on the platform deck top and the other on the step cover.
- 3 Push the platform deck forward and allow the ladder to move.
- 4 Push the platform deck firmly down to engage hooks.



## Closing the Platform Ladder

- 1 Hold the rear of the platform deck and raise upwards.
- 2 Pull the platform deck upwards into an upright position.
- 3 Pull the platform deck forward allowing sections to close.

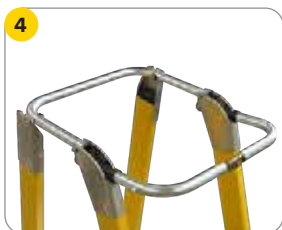




## Rear Safety Rail Operation

Always use rear safety rail when fitted to the platform ladder:

- 1 Slide and separate catch.
- 2 Lift arms upwards.
- 3 Lower arms.
- 4 Re-engage Latch.



# Fall Control System (FED-FC)



## Glossary

- |                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>A</b> Top Pulley Attachment | <b>F</b> Rope Termination      |
| <b>B</b> Rung Eyelet           | <b>G</b> Camp Rope Grab        |
| <b>C</b> Life-line Rope        | <b>H</b> 3 Lock Carabiner      |
| <b>D</b> TerrainMaster         | <b>I</b> Work Positioning Hook |
| <b>E</b> Descender             | <b>J</b> Tethers               |

## Initial Set Up

- 1 Start set up by laying the ladder on the ground. Check rope bag ladder size is greater than, or equal to, the ladder size being used.
- 2 Take rope from the bag with termination end in hand.



## Rope Connection to Descender

Insert rope termination into descenders top RH keyhole and pull fitting around until fitting is vertically aligned with the ladder.



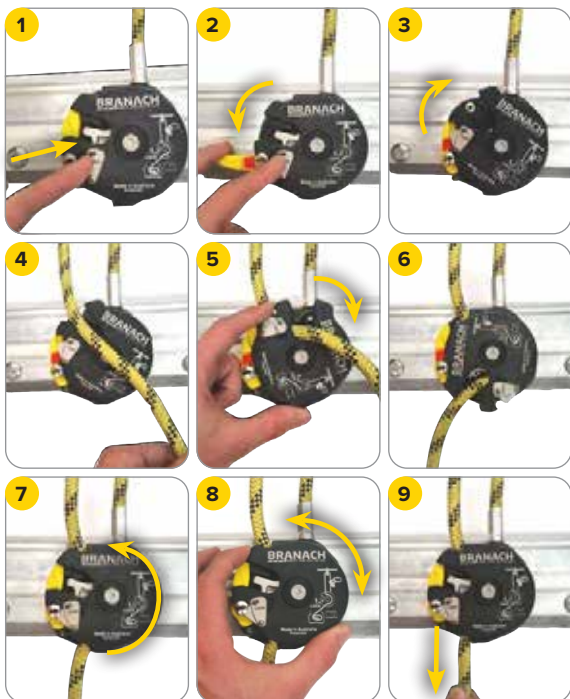
## Threading Pulley

- 1 Run rope up the right hand side and fit the life-line rope through the top pulley attachment in an anti-clockwise direction.
- 2 Ensure the pulley gate is closed once the rope is loaded.



## Complete Descender Roping

- 1 Slide thumb catch with arrows to right hand side.
- 2 Unlatch yellow release lever.
- 3 Turn cover clockwise to expose rope entry slot.
- 4 Create 20cm of slack in the rope line, then insert rope into slot using thumb.
- 5 Turn cover plate clockwise until rope is aligned with the lower rope exit slot.
- 6 Pull down on rope to make sure it exits the descender.
- 7 Turn cover plate anti-clockwise back to the locked position.
- 8 Check that cover cannot rotate and has locked.
- 9 Pull down on rope from below the descender to remove slack from life-line.

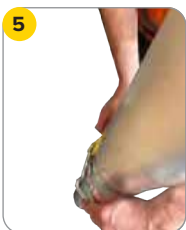


## Tether Setup

**Select anchor point:** soft ground screw, masonry anchor, pole. **Pole attachment:** attach ladder tethers around pole or onto structure. **Ground or masonry attachment:** drill into surface, insert ground screw or masonry anchor.

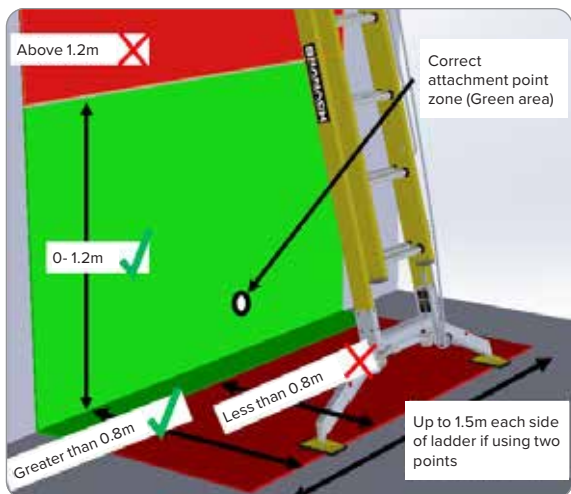
- 1 Release tether lever on rear side of ladder and pull rope out.
- 2 Un-clip tether hook from housing.
- 3 Un-hook tether from lower hook point.

- 4 Extend both tethers around pole and clip together or extend tethers to other structure and clip on.
- 5 Tension tethers with up to 20kg of load on each tether.



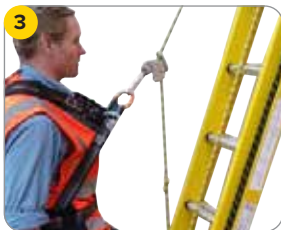
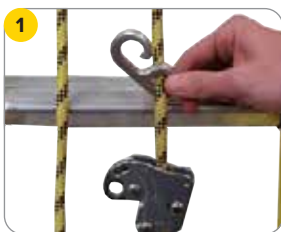
### Tether Zone

**Ground attachment point:** aim to be greater than 0.8m away from the ladder feet. **Wall attachment point:** aim to be within the range of 0–1.2m from the ground.



## Attach Harness onto Fall Arrest Device

- 1 Un-clip work position hook from life-line rope.
- 2 Attach chest harness point to fall-arrest device. Never connect to the fall-arrest device via a lanyard or shock pack as this will increase fall distances and overload the ladder system. The maximum gap between the users' chest and the fall-arrest device should be 30cm.
- 3 **Important!** Test the system before climbing the ladder by rocking ladder to ensure tethers are tensioned and sitting in the harness from the life-line rope via the fall-arrest device.
- 4 Ascend ladder, once the desired work height on the ladder has been reached, attach the work positioning hook to a rung eyelet above the harness attachment point. Place hook above eyelet and twist in.
- 5 Remove slack in life-line rope by holding the fall-arrest device under the rung hook and pulling the rope line through the fall-arrest device.
- 6 If performing pole work, attach the top-lash to the pole.



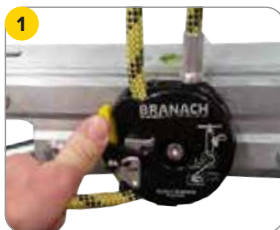
**ENSURE SAFETY HARNESS WORN BY THE USER IS IN GOOD CONDITION AND HAS A LOAD RATING TO MEET THE USERS' WEIGHT, INCLUDING EQUIPMENT.**

# Rescue

## Before you begin

Assess the position and condition of the worker and continue with rescue procedure if safe to do so.

- 1 Firmly hold the free end of life-line rope in one hand. Then partially pull out the yellow release lever.
- 2 Pull the yellow release lever down to start lowering the user. Control the lowering rate by varying the speed that the rope passes through your hand.
- 3 To stop the descent, release the yellow lever.
- 4 Monitor the users position and un-hook their legs as they approach the tether lines.



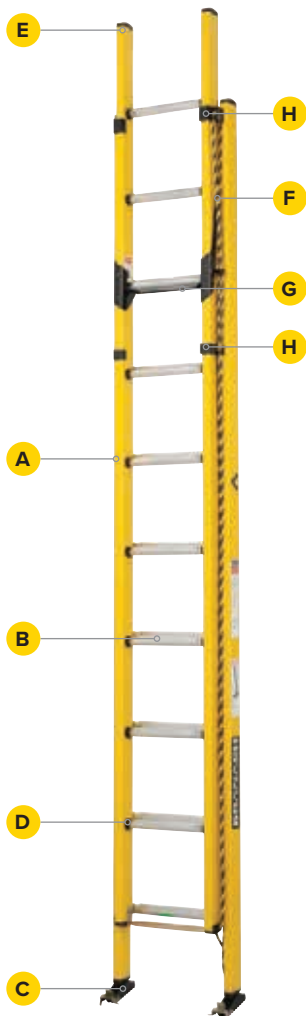
## Summary

Ensure work area is safe and Fall Control System is set up correctly.

- |                                   |                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 <b>Inspect:</b> Before use      | 4 <b>Secure:</b> Tethers            |
| 2 <b>Level:</b> Use level bubble  | 5 <b>Life-line:</b> Roped Correctly |
| 3 <b>Stabilise:</b> TerrainMaster |                                     |



# PowerMaster Extension (FED)

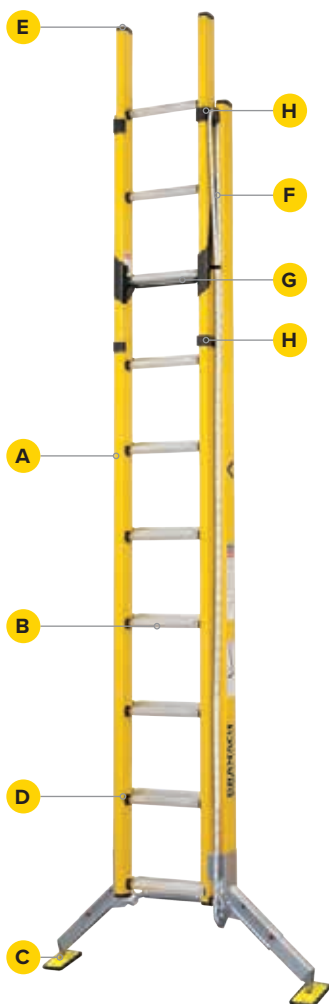


## Glossary

- |                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>A</b> Stiles          | <b>E</b> End Caps             |
| <b>B</b> Rungs           | <b>F</b> Rope                 |
| <b>C</b> Swivel Feet     | <b>G</b> Latch                |
| <b>D</b> Rung Wear Strip | <b>H</b> Ladder Guide Bracket |



# PowerMaster Extension (FED-TE) with TerrainMaster



## Glossary

- |                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>A</b> Stiles             | <b>E</b> End Caps             |
| <b>B</b> Rungs              | <b>F</b> Rope                 |
| <b>C</b> TerrainMaster Feet | <b>G</b> Latch                |
| <b>D</b> Rung Wear Strip    | <b>H</b> Ladder Guide Bracket |

GENERAL

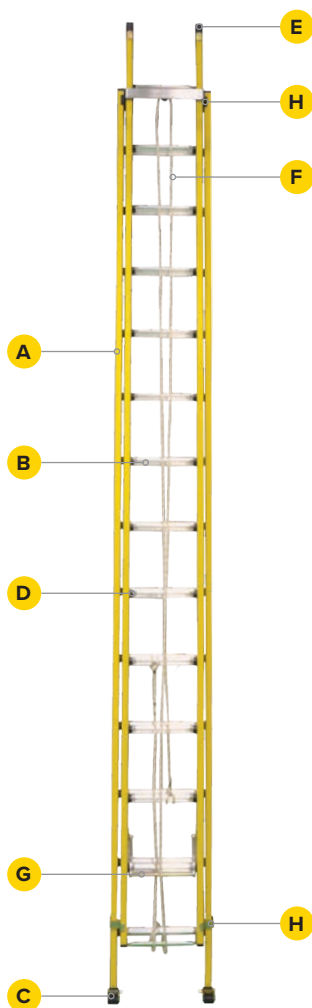
TERRAINMASTER

SAFETY STEP PLATFORMS

FALL CONTROL SYSTEM

EXTENSION & SINGLE LADDERS

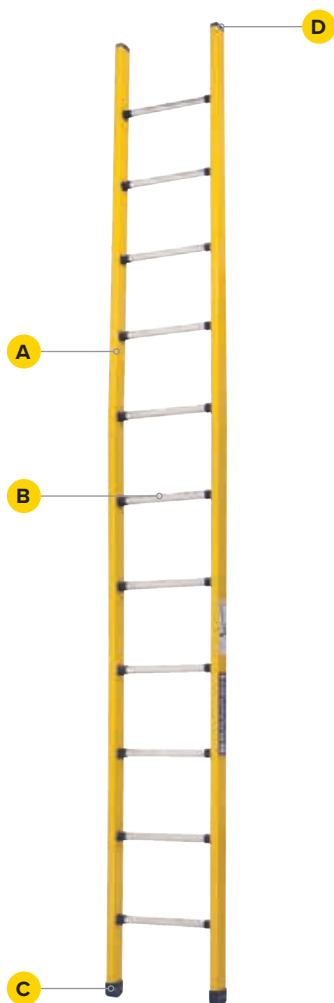
# PowerMaster Extension (FED-CL) with Conventional Latch



## Glossary

- |                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>A</b> Stiles          | <b>E</b> End Caps             |
| <b>B</b> Rungs           | <b>F</b> Rope                 |
| <b>C</b> Swivel Feet     | <b>G</b> Conventional Latch   |
| <b>D</b> Rung Wear Strip | <b>H</b> Ladder Guide Bracket |

# PowerMaster Single (FND)



## Glossary

- A** Stiles
- B** Rungs
- C** Rubber Feet
- D** End Caps

GENERAL

TERRAINMASTER

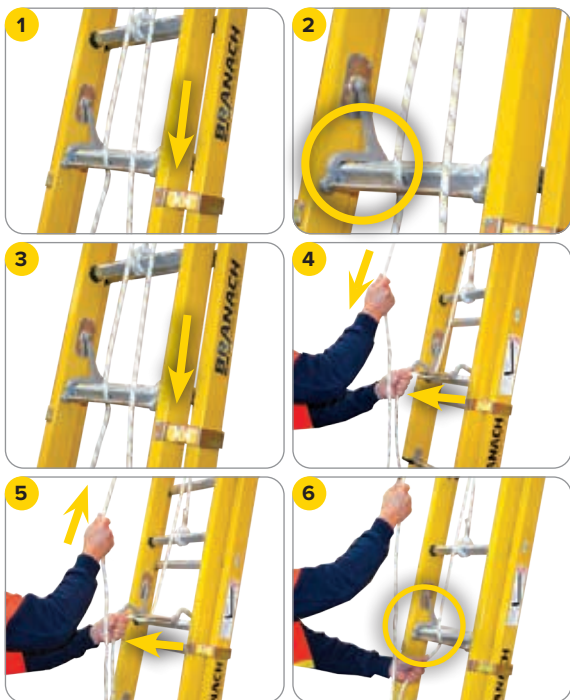
SAFETY STEP PLATFORMS

FALL CONTROL SYSTEM

EXTENSION & SINGLE LADDERS

## Conventional Latch Sequence

- 1 Raise Ladder:** Pull right hand rope down using both hands.
- 2 Re-engage Latch:** Remove tension from rope, ensure latch captures both rungs.
- 3 Lower Ladder:** Pull down on right hand rope and raise fly section by 30mm.
- 4 Disengage Latch:** Pull left hand rope away from the ladder to disengage latch.
- 5 Lower Ladder Fly:** Raise right hand rope while keeping tension on the left rope to keep the latch disengaged.
- 6 Re-engage Latch:** Remove tension from left hand rope to engage latch. Ensure latch captures both rungs.

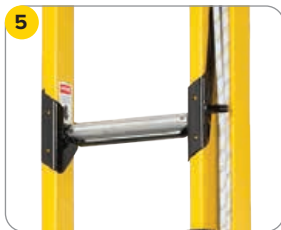
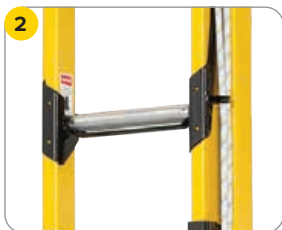
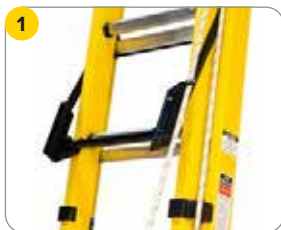


### CAUTION

- Never place hands in latch.
- Never place hands on rungs while raising or lowering the ladder.
- Always check the latch is engaged before placing hands on rungs or climbing the ladder.

## Branach Latch Sequence

- 1 Extend Ladder:** Pull the front rope, ensure rope tab is clear, latch will ratchet to each rung.
- 2 Secure Latch:** When at desired height, ensure latch engages securely under the selected rung.
- 3 Lower Ladder:** Position rope behind the rope tab to disengage the latch. Pull front rope downwards while positioning rope away from the ladder to disengage the latch.
- 4 Release Slowly:** Once latch is disengaged keep tension on the rope and lower slowly with rope tab guiding the latch away from the rungs.
- 5 Re-engage Latch:** When ladder is closed, ensure latch is engaged before moving the ladder.



## Summary

Ensure work area is safe.

- 1 Inspect:** Before use
- 2 Level:** Use level bubble
- 3 Stabilise:** TerrainMaster
- 4 Secure:** Tethers









MANUFACTURED BY

**Branach Technology Pty Ltd**

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