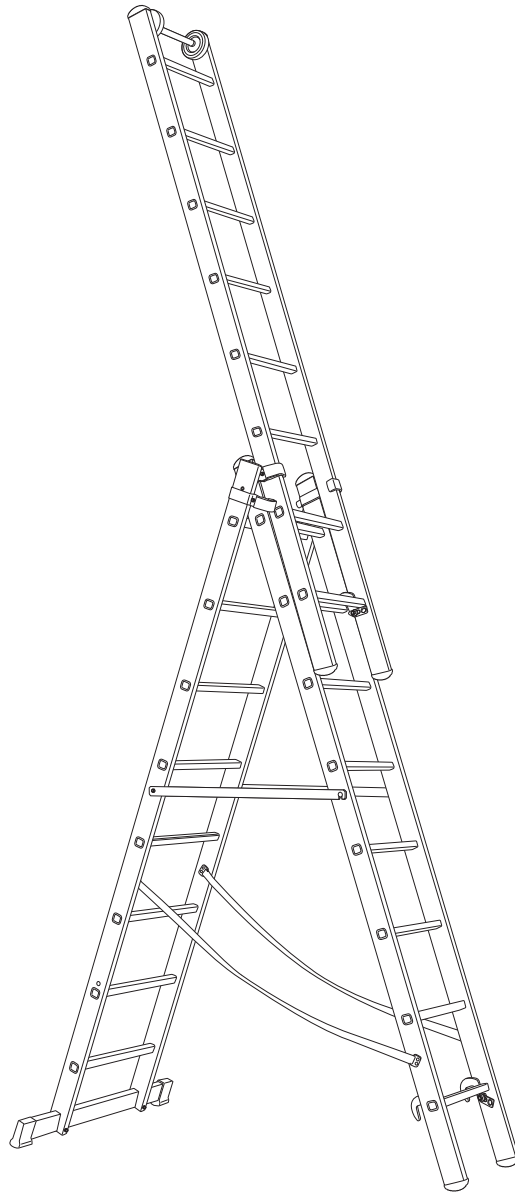




# ZARGES



## Instructions

### **Skymaster™ Ladder**

**Z500 Trade Range**  
**Z600 Industrial Range**

### Thank you for choosing the Zarges Skymaster Ladder System.

Before using this equipment and to avoid personal injury, carefully read and understand these instructions. If there is anything you do not understand, DO NOT use this equipment, and contact your supplier for advice.

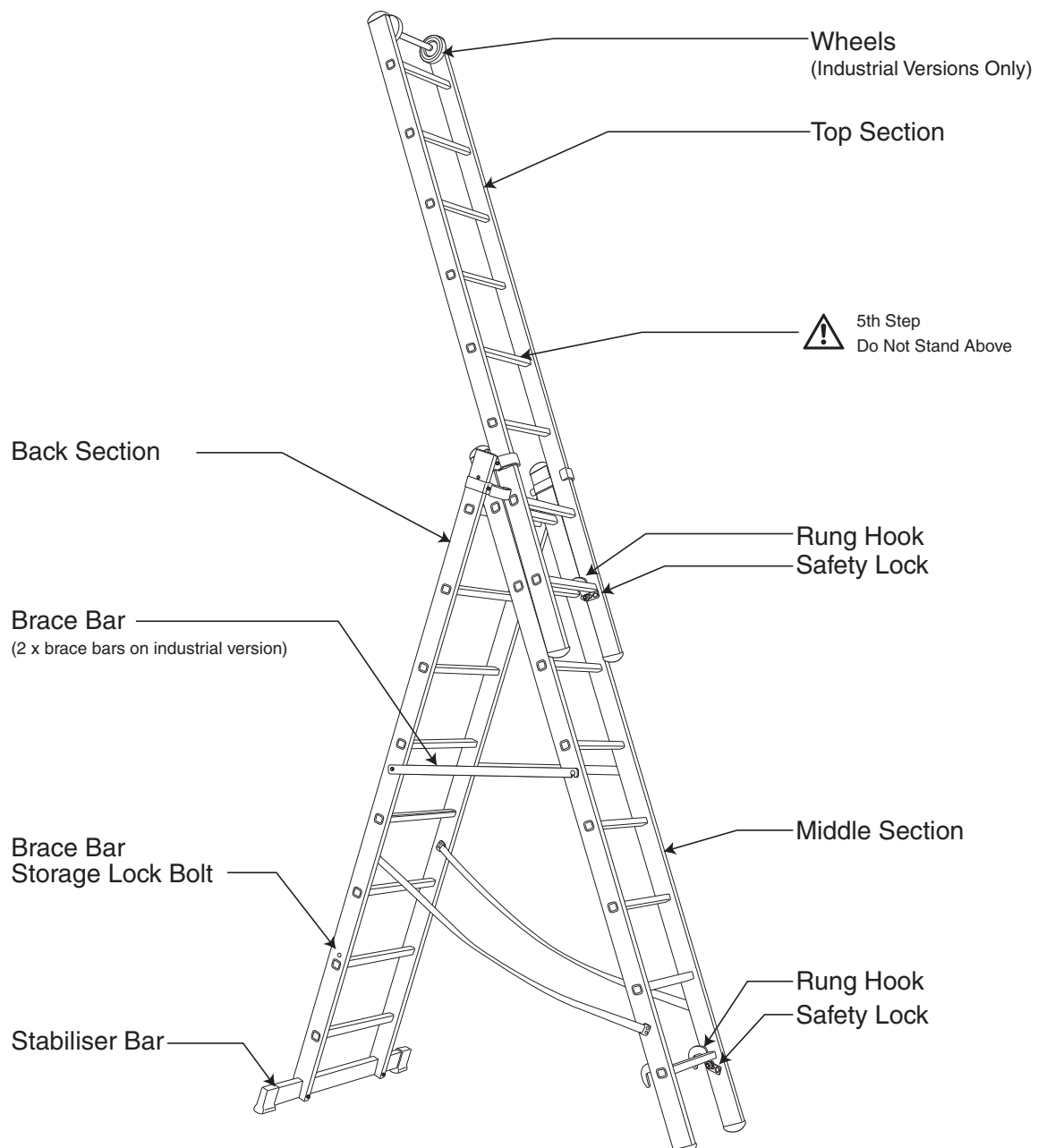
Certain information in these instructions is governed by law and is subject to change without prior notice. Great care has been taken to ensure that the information is correct at the time of publication. However, it is the user's sole responsibility to ensure that they fully comply with all legal requirements. Zarges UK Ltd will not accept liability for any inaccuracy or incorrectly stated legal requirements.

Regular inspection, servicing and periodic maintenance will ensure many years of trouble free operation.

### Overview

The Zarges Skymaster Ladder is a three-section multi-use design. The Skymaster can be used as a two part free standing extension ladder, a two and three part extension ladder, a single ladder, a trestle / step ladder and a unique stair way ladder.

Fitted with a base stabiliser bar that increases the ladder's footprint and stability. This manual covers both Trade and Industrial versions.



## General Safety



This equipment must not be erected, used or dismantled by persons who are under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Do not use this equipment if you are tired or unwell.

You **MUST** perform a risk assessment before using this equipment to ensure your safety and the safety of others.

Wear the correct Personal Protective Equipment for the task ahead.

Wear gloves when handling this equipment. Steel toecap boots must be worn. If appropriate, wear a hard hat.

Do not wear loose jewellery or clothing that may get in the way or become trapped in the equipment. Tie back long hair.

Carefully inspect the ladder before use, if there is any doubt about its condition, **DO NOT USE IT**.

Do not use this equipment where there are overhead power lines or similar hazards.

Do not lean from the ladder and never apply a lot of side force.

The Skymaster Ladder **MUST NOT** be used when working with electricity.

This equipment must not be used in windy conditions.

This equipment may only be used on level ground, which is able to bear its weight and its load.

A competent person should remain close by whenever the equipment is being used, in case of an emergency.

Only use this equipment if you are comfortable working at heights.

Only carry tools and materials up the ladder if your hands are kept free.

## Assembly



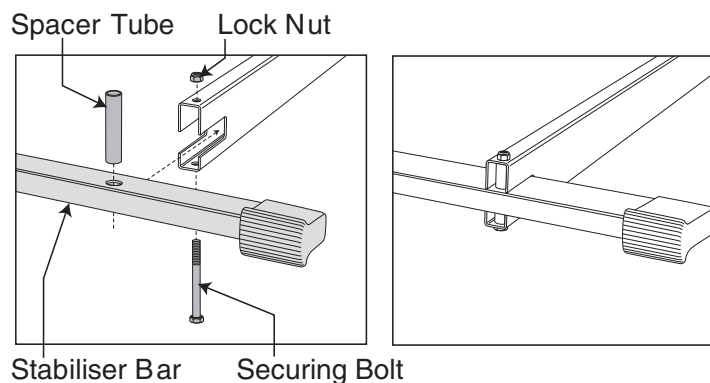
The Skymaster Ladder is supplied with the stabiliser bar detached and will require assembly before the ladder can be used. **DO NOT** use the ladder if the stabiliser is not correctly fitted.

Unpack the ladder, disposing of the packaging in a responsible manner.

Lay the ladder on a suitable surface, preferable a work bench but a clean floor will do. Release the rung hook safety lock that secures the top section, raise it from the middle section and remove the stabiliser bar. Re lock the top section to the middle.

Check that all the securing components are present.

Extend the middle section by one rung to enable easy access to the foot end of the back section.

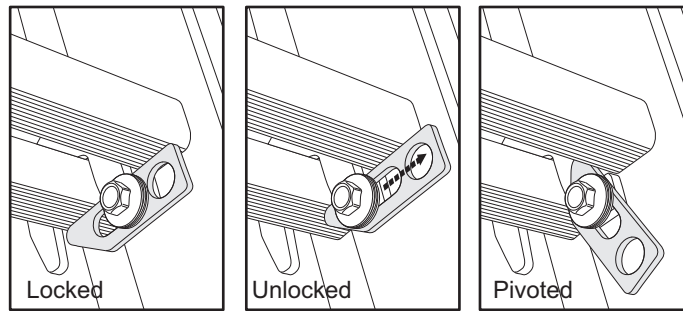


The stabiliser bar locates within the cut-outs at the foot end of the back section and is secured in place with bolts.

Firstly, place the spacer tubes into the location holes on the stabiliser bar. Next push the stabiliser bar into the cut-outs placing the tubes within the back sections legs. Once in position, the tubes will align with the location holes in the back section legs.

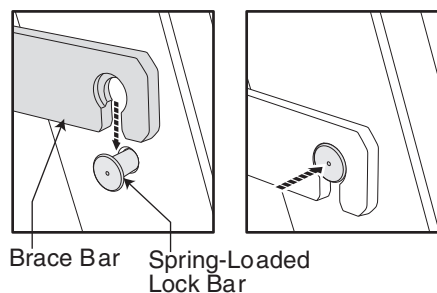
Insert the securing bolt through the location hole and secure with the lock nut.

## RUNG HOOK SAFETY LOCK



The middle and top sections' right hand rung hook are fitted with a sliding safety lock bar. The lock bar, when engaged, prevents the rung hook from disengaging from the rung. When locked, the bar is simply moved forward under the rung. To release, slide the bar fully back. Where the bar needs to be kept clear of the rung, pivot the bar downward. NEVER use the Skymaster without the safety locks engaged.

## BRACE BAR/S

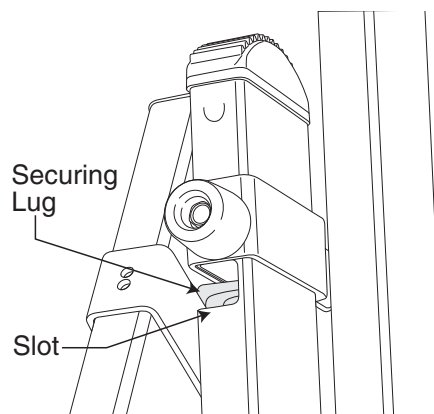


The back and middle sections are connected together by tethering straps. Though the straps are fitted to prevent the two sections from splaying too far, they are not designed to keep the step configuration rigid.

Depending upon the model you have, there will be either a single (Trade Z500) or pair (Industrial Z600) of brace bars fitted. When not in use, the bar/s is retained along the length of the back section by a spring loaded lock bolt. The same type of bolt is fitted to the side/s of the middle section and is used to secure the brace when required.

NEVER use the Skymaster as a stepladder without the brace bar/s correctly engaged.

## TOP SECURING LUG



When the back and middle sections are pivoted to create a stepladder, the pivot point is strengthened by the use of a securing lug on each side which locate within a slot on the middle section. The lug must be in good condition and correctly located to ensure the rigidity of the stepladder base.

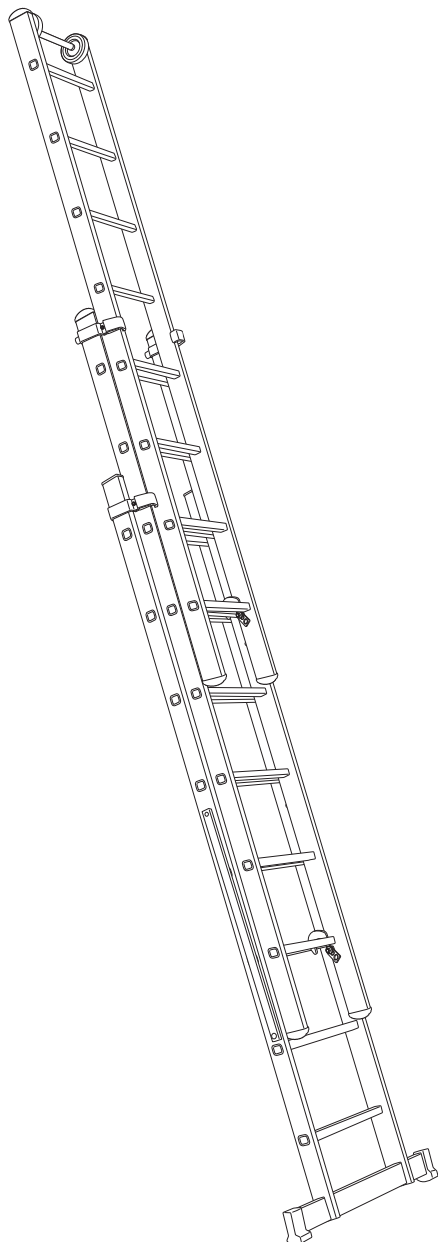
The Skymaster's three sections can be extended to form a triple ladder. Alternatively, the top section can be removed, giving you a double extension or a single ladder.

With all three (or two if the top section has been removed) sections lowered and closed, place the Skymaster on to the ground. Extend each section to the length required and ensure that all rung hook safety locks are correctly engaged.

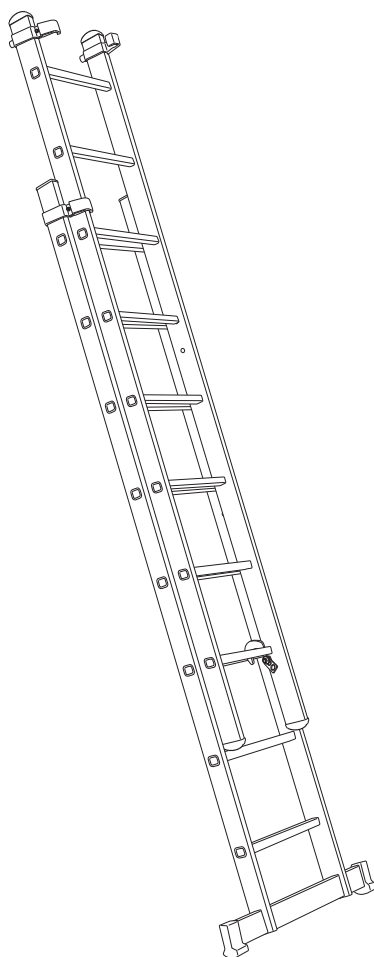
If a ladder stay is to be used, it must be fitted before raising the ladder.

Place the base of the ladder against the wall then starting at what will be the top, slowly walk the ladder upright. Lift the top and raise it above your head, walk towards the wall whilst moving your hands to the next rung until the ladder is upright.

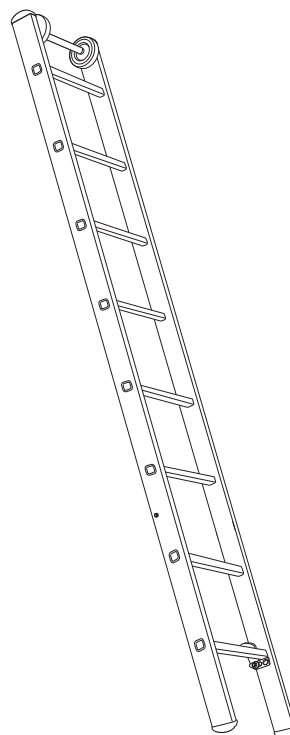
Carefully move the base out from the wall until the ladder is at the 'safe to use' angle as shown by the angle indicator fitted to the back section's right hand stile.



Three Part Extension



Two Part Extension



Single

#### **SAFE TO USE ANGLE**

**Set the ladder so that the distance from the wall to the ladders base is equal to 25% of the ladders overall extended length.**

**If a ladder stay is being used, its reach must be added to the base distance.**

You may use the Skymaster as a step ladder, with or without the top section in place.

Firstly, ensure that all sections are at their lowest setting. To remove the top section, release the respective rung hook safety lock. Raise the section to clear the hook from the rung then move out slightly. You can now lower the section until it is clear.

Release the rung hook safety lock securing the middle section to the back section. Next, stand the Skymaster upright making sure that you have a firm hold.

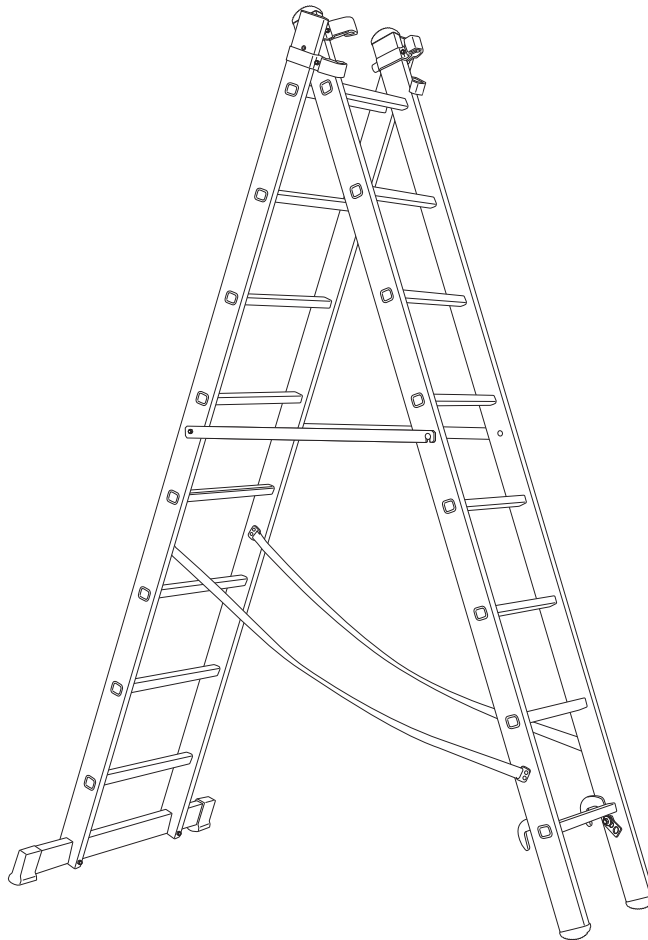
Now carefully separate the two sections from the base, pivoting the top to form the step ladder shape. Ensure that the securing lugs on the top of the back section locate within the slots found on the middle section.

The step ladder configuration must now be locked in position using the brace bar/s which will prevent the stepladder from closing. Note that there will be either one or two bars depending upon which model you have.

To release the brace bar, press and hold the spring loaded lock bolt and move the bar clear. Align the bar with the lock bolt on the middle section and adjust the spacing between the two sections to enable correct alignment.

The steps are now ready to use.

## Trestle / Step Ladder



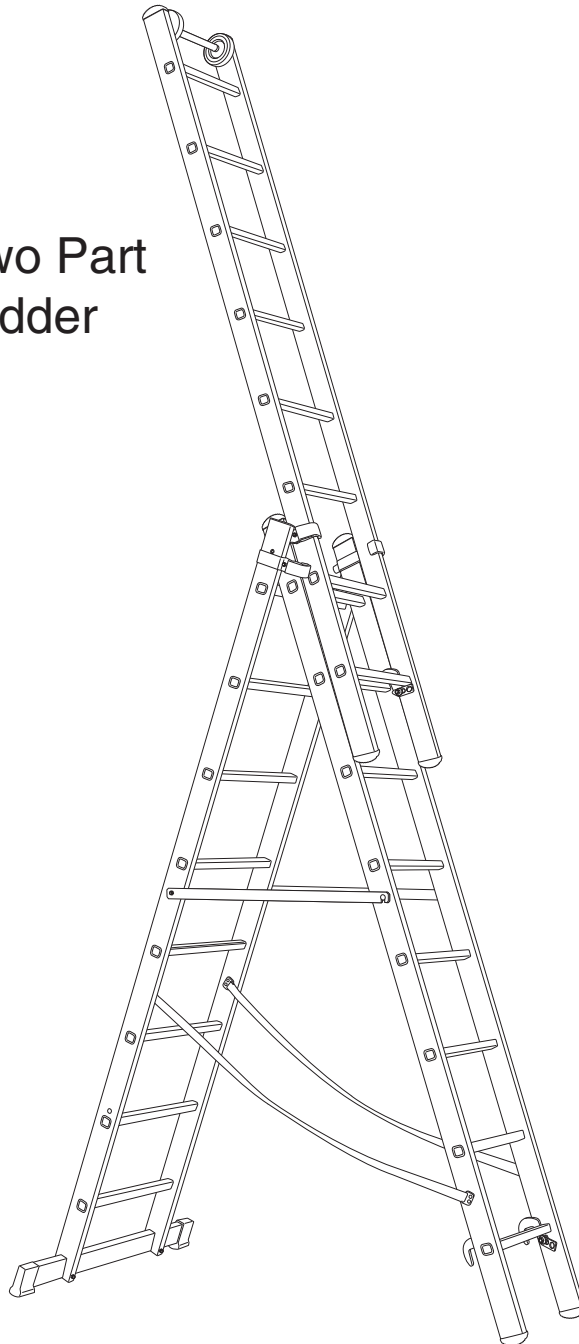
Once the Skymaster has been set up as a stepladder, you can raise the top section to gain additional height.

If you have removed the top section, replacement is simply a reversal of removal.

Release the rung hook safety lock, raise the section as required then reset the safety lock to ensure that the top section cannot become disengaged.

When extended, the top section must have a minimum of two rungs overlapping the middle section.

### Freestanding Two Part Extension Ladder



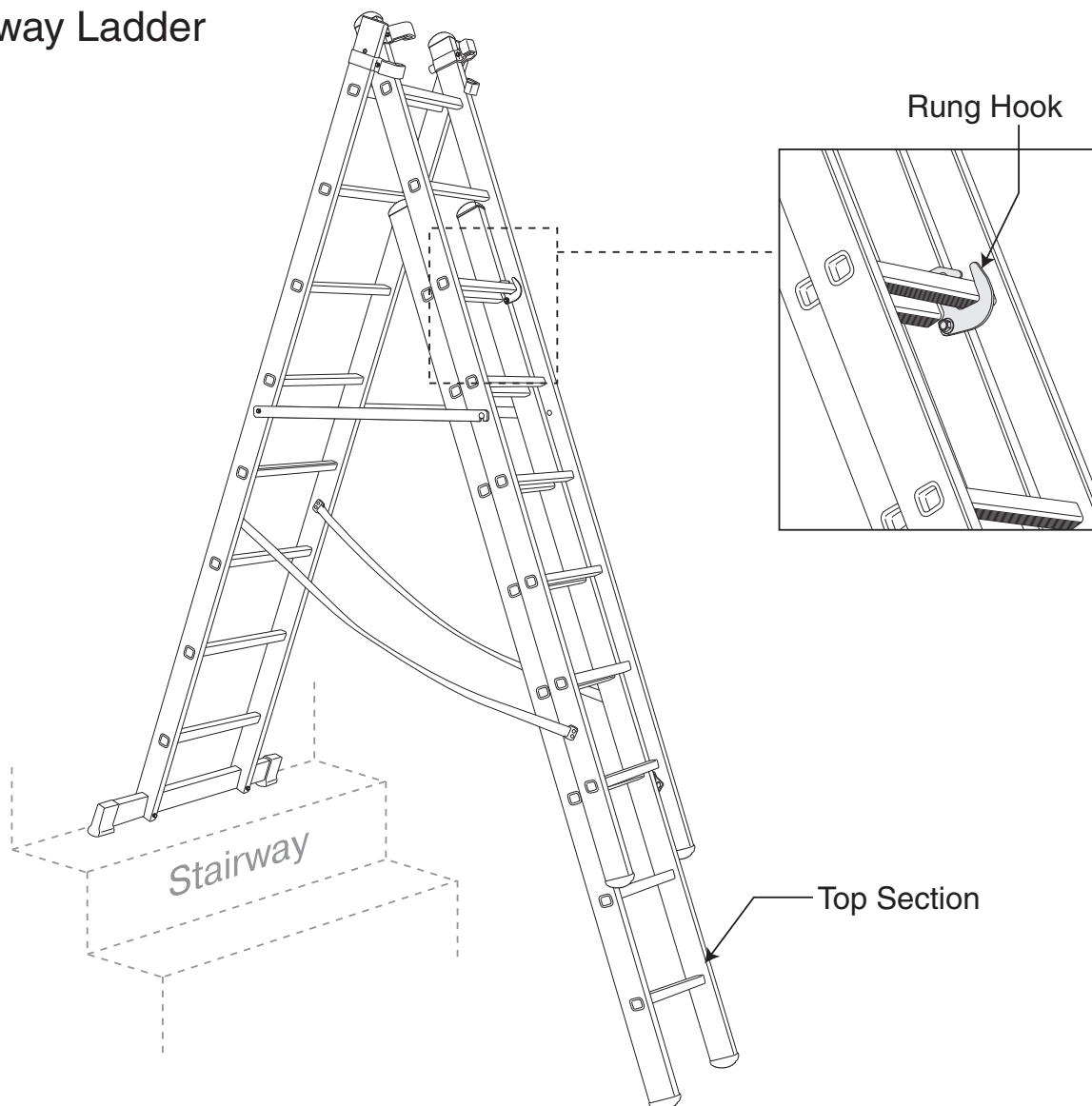
A unique design aspect of the Skymaster is the ability to use it on a stairway. Reaching work which is above a stairway often requires the use of specialist access towers. The Skymaster saves you the time, effort and expense of additional equipment.

To assemble, position and use the Skymaster on a stairway, you will need a minimum of two persons. As a safety precaution, all traffic accessing the stairway must be stopped, under no circumstances may the stairway be used by anyone whilst work is in progress.

You must perform a risk assessment to ensure your safety and the safety of others. Only proceed if it is safe to do so.

To use the Skymaster on a stairway, the top section is utilised as the supporting section to the lower steps. The top section must be removed, turned up-side-down and positioned against the inside of the middle frame. The top frame is also pivoted so that its rung hook can engage with the underside of the middle sections rung.

## Stairway Ladder



Firstly, ensure that all sections are at their lowest setting. To remove the top section, release the respective rung hook safety lock. Raise the section to clear the hook from the rung then move out slightly. You can now lower the section until it is clear.

Release the rung hook safety lock securing the middle section to the back section. Next, stand the Skymaster upright making sure that you have a firm hold.

Now carefully separate the two sections from the base, pivoting the top to form the step ladder shape. Ensure that the securing lugs on the top of the back section locate within the slots found on the middle section.



The step ladder configuration must now be locked in position using the brace bar/s which will prevent the stepladder from closing. Note that there will be either one or two bars depending upon which model you have.

To release the brace bar, press and hold the spring loaded lock bolt and move the bar clear. Align the bar with the lock bolt on the middle section and adjust the spacing between the two sections to enable correct alignment.

Set the stepladder at the bottom of the stairway, with the back section(fitted with the stabiliser bar) towards the stair. Carefully walk the stepladder up the stairs and position the stabiliser bar on to the step that will place the stepladder in the required position once levelled.

Tilt the stepladder back to allow the top section to be inserted behind the middle section. Slot the top section's rung hooks on to the underside of the middle sections rung which when fitted will align the top section with a lower step to bring the stepladder upright.

Next, secure the safety lock to ensure that the top section cannot become disengaged. Now adjust the assembly so that the stabiliser bar is as far back into the step as possible and the top section is in contact with the middle section by its full length and its feet are positioned on to a lower step without the risk of movement.

When ascending, you **MUST** have a helper footing the top section to ensure that it cannot move off of its step.

#### Ascending The Ladder



Never exceed the ladders safe working load, (the combined weight of the user and tools).

The top 4 rungs of the highest ladder section (depending upon the configuration you are using) must not be stood upon.

When using the ladder to gain access to another structure, extend the ladder 1m above the step off point.

Do not rest the ladder against windows, guttering or similar items which may not bear its weight.

Always secure the top of the ladder to the structure you are accessing with suitable rope or strapping.

Also secure the bottom of the ladder using rope and anchorage pins.

When used with a roof ladder, secure the two together.

Only climb the outer face of the ladder, do not climb from the underside.

Your feet must always be positioned in the middle of the rung. Climb each rung slowly holding the upper rungs with your hands at all times.