

**Never do anything that involves applying a lot of force.** The steps could topple over.

## Ladder Safety

The maximum safe working load is 175KG, the total weight of the user and tools must not exceed this.

Never use the steps in the closed position acting as a ladder or as a ramp with boards. Never use the steps for work which requires both hands.

Never stand on the top 3 rungs, either use a taller set or use an access tower.

When moving to a new site, carry the steps with care.

## GETTING STARTED

**Always set the steps up on a firm, level, non-slip surface.** On soft ground, stand the steps on boards to stop it sinking in.

**Make sure they are fully extended.** Never use them partly open.

**Alloy steps have a hinged brace fitted between the two sections and must be pushed flat before use.**

## EQUIPMENT CARE

**Never push the equipment beyond its design limits.** If it will not do what you with reasonable ease, assume you have the wrong equipment for the job. Contact your local HSS Hire Shop for advice.

**Keep the equipment clean,** you will find it less of a chore if you clean it regularly rather than at the end of the hire period.

**When not in use, store the equipment somewhere clean, dry and safe** from thieves.

## FINISHING OFF

**Tie steps and trestles in the closed position before transporting them. If transporting on a roof rack, tie down securely.**



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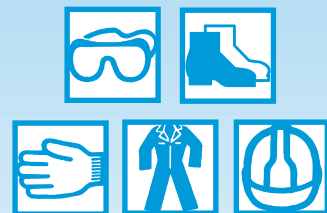
# Operating & Safety Guide 782

## HSS Hire Shops



# Builders Steps

**A selection of timber or alloy steps, available in 8, 10 & 12 tread.**



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## GENERAL SAFETY

For advice on the safety and suitability of this equipment contact your local HSS Hire Shop.

Keep children, animals and bystanders away from the work area.

Never use this equipment if you are ill, feeling tired, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

This equipment should only be used by a competent person who has read and understood these instructions.

Never let more than one person onto the steps at any one time.



Wear sensible clothing and stout, comfortable footwear offering good grip. If necessary, wear goggles and gloves.



A hard hat must be worn by everyone in the work area.

Don't attempt to use access equipment unless you feel comfortable working at heights.

Never use step ladders unless there is someone within ear-shot to summon help, in the event of accident.

Alloy ladders must not be used for work on electrical installations.

Never carry equipment while climbing unless you can do so leaving your hands free, by carrying the equipment in a shoulder bag. Climb first then haul the equipment up after you on a rope.

Never use access equipment near over-head or wall mounted power cables and similar hazards.

Never use the steps in very windy or blustery conditions.

Note that the steps are designed to provide access for light maintenance work. Never use them as a work platform.

Check the equipment's condition before use. If it shows signs of damage or excessive wear – notably to ladder feet, rungs or ropes, return it to your local HSS Hire Shop immediately.

Keep your feet in the middle of the steps and climb gripping the side firmly, with both hands.

Always climb on the outer face, never on the underside.

Never lean to far to one side to reach. Move the steps as necessary.

