



# TRESTLES, STAGINGS & SCAFFOLD BOARDS

## SAFETY PRECAUTIONS & WARNINGS

It is in the interests of those operating this equipment, and for the safety of others, that these **SAFETY PRECAUTIONS & WARNINGS** are carefully read and understood before operating this equipment.

## PURPOSE

1. Trestles and stagings are provided to give painters, decorators, etc. a firm and level platform to work from at various heights. Adjustable trestles and scaffold boards also provide builders with working and access platforms.

## PERSONAL SAFETY

2. This equipment is designed for use by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it. It must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
3. If the equipment is not used in a safe, careful and controlled way, personal injury or injury to others may result.
4. As work with this equipment is undertaken at heights, for safety reasons it is important that you familiarise yourself with the equipment, its construction and the manner it functions.
5. Care must be taken when erecting any of this type of equipment, adjusting it, securing it and when moving as it can be heavy, enlist the help of others.
6. Before starting your work, think and plan ahead to ensure you, and others around you, will be working in a safe environment.
7. An appropriate ladder may be required to gain access when using this equipment.
8. **DO NOT USE STAGINGS OR SCAFFOLD BOARDS FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE THAN IT IS DESIGNED FOR.**
9. When using this equipment, it is recommended that the following items of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) be worn:
  - Safety helmet to EN397 or BS52400.
  - Safety boots to EN345 or BS1870/4972.
  - Appropriate industrial gloves.

Note: Other types of work, or environment, may require a higher level of PPE.

## OPERATING AREA SAFETY

10. Before commencing work, ensure that the area you are to use this equipment in is a safe environment. Erect safety barriers and warning signs as necessary.
11. Make sure that the work area is clear of obstructions and hazards (projections, overhead cables, pipes, etc.) and that no one is close by that could distract you whilst working on this equipment. When moving or transporting this equipment, be aware of such hazards.
12. Ensure that such hazards as windows and doors in close vicinity to this equipment are closed and locked.
13. This equipment is not to be used in areas where there is a risk of collision from other traffic (vehicles, people, etc.).
14. Never exceed the safe working load (SWL) of the equipment.
15. Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear the appropriate PPE.
16. Before commencing work, warn others who may be working near the equipment, to keep clear. If possible, place safety barriers and signs around your work area.

17. This equipment must always be placed on level and firm ground and never on slippery ground. If erection on soft ground is necessary, position the equipment on firm, flat, strong wooden board.
18. Do not attempt to increase the height of this equipment by modifying it, or by adding any other form of additional supports (i.e. bricks, wooden blocks, etc.).
19. Never attempt to climb trestles or scaffolding to reach a working platform. Always use a ladder, which in turn must be firmly secured.
20. Do not over burden yourself with tools or equipment whilst climbing or descending this equipment. Use tool bags, or similar containers, to assist easy access.
21. Never use working platforms to store materials or tools and keep platforms clear of debris.

## BEFORE USING THE EQUIPMENT

### WORKING PLATFORMS - SAFETY CHECKS

22. Visually inspect all the equipment for serviceability (completeness, signs of damage, undue wear, etc.). Do not use the equipment if found damaged or worn - contact the hire company immediately.
23. Before attempting to operate the equipment, ensure the equipment is clean and not slippery.
24. Construction regulations insist that:
  - Guardrails and toe boards must be used if working at a height above 2m (6ft 6ins).
  - Working platforms must be at least 600mm (25ins) in width (i.e. three standard scaffolding boards) or two standard (450mm (18ins) stagings.
  - Scaffolding platform structures, left in position for more than seven days, must be inspected by a competent person.
25. Before you assemble any of the equipment, ensure you are capable and confident at working at height.
26. Ensure you understand how to assemble the equipment and be aware of the need for any additional safety equipment that may be required.

## USING THE EQUIPMENT

### TRESTLES & STAGINGS (PAINTERS & DECORATORS)

27. Trestles must be opened and extended to their full width before assembling staging.
28. Do not use and mix different types (size or construction) of trestles.
29. Stagings must be supported 600mm (24ins) from either end.
30. Correctly erected staging is capable of supporting, in the center, the combined weight of two men (180kg (396lbs)) or three men (270kg (595lbs) evenly spaced along the staging.
31. Check the equipment is safe before commencing work.

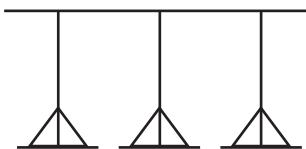
### TRESTLES & SCAFFOLDING BOARDS (BUILDERS)

32. Only use genuine scaffolding boards (metal strip around each end) when working at height. Do not use any other type of wooden board.
33. Only use boards of the same thickness, length and with an even surface.
34. Do not use and mix different types (size or construction) of trestles.
35. When adjusting the height of trestles, ensure locks or securing pins are correctly located and secure.
36. Check the equipment is safe before commencing work.
37. The following table details the number of trestles required for 38mm (1 1/2in) scaffold boards.

38mm (1 1/2in) Lengths	Scaffold Board Support Required
2.4m (8ft)	3
3.1m (10ft)	3
3.7m (12ft)	4
4.3m (14ft)	4
4.9m (16ft)	5

38. Scaffolding boards sizes and limitations when using No. 3 builders trestles (un-extended) are as follows:

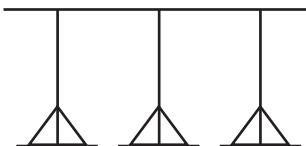
- 38mm (1/12ins) Boards



Distance between supports: No more than: 1.5 m (5ft)

Overhang: 50 – 150mm (2- 6ins)

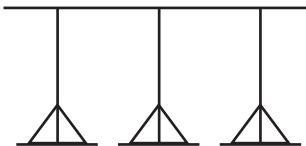
- 50mm (2ins) Boards



Distance between supports: No more than: 2.6 m (8ft 6ins)

Overhang: 50 – 200mm (2- 8ins)

- 63mm (2 1/2ins) Boards



Distance between supports: No more than: 3.25 m (10ft 6ins)

Overhang: 50 – 250mm (2- 10ins)

## SECURITY & MAINTENANCE

39. Visually check the condition and security of the equipment at the start of each day.
40. If any of the equipments is found to be unserviceable, do not use and do not attempt to repair it. Inform the hire company.
41. Periodically clean the equipment to ensure it is free from wet, dust, dirt and other debris.
42. When the equipment is left unattended for long periods (i.e. overnight), ensure it is made secure to prevent unauthorized use or loss.

## COLLECTION & PICK-UP

37. For safety reasons this equipment requires you to use a **LORRY**.

