



Standard Practice for Testing Treestand Ladder, Tripod Stand and Climbing Stick Load Capacity¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This practice provides guidance for testing the load capacity of ladder and tripod type treestands. This practice also applies to climbing sticks which shall meet the same requirements as the steps to ladder and tripod type stands. For changes to this specification since the last issue, refer to the Summary of Changes section at the end of the standard.

1.2 The values stated are in inch-pound units and are to be regarded as the standard.

1.3 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

F2125 Test Method for Treestand Static Stability and Adherence

F2126 Test Method for Treestand Static Load Capacity

F2128 Test Method for Treestand Repetitive Loading Capability

F2531 Test Method for Load Capacity of Treestand Seats

3. Terminology

3.1 The terminology and definitions in the referenced documents are applicable to this practice.

3.2 *Definitions:*

3.2.1 *climbing stick*—a device to assist climbing a tree particularly to a fixed position treestand. A structure that is secured to the tree and allows the user to support his weight and climb to a desired height on the tree.

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F08 on Sports Equipment, Playing Surfaces, and Facilities and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F08.18 on Treestands.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

3.2.2 *ladder treestand*—a treestand that is secured to the tree at an elevation where the platform is located. (The ladder treestand may be secured to the tree at other locations and has steps that are used to reach the platform or hunting position.)

3.2.3 *platform*—the horizontal structural area of a treestand on which the user stands, sits and/or places their feet.

3.2.4 *treestand*—a device designed to be affixed to a tree or its branches so as to permit an individual to sit or stand thereon for the purpose of attaining an elevated position from which to observe, photograph or hunt.

3.2.5 *tripod or tower stand*—a tripod or tower stand is constructed to be self-supporting and is not required to be secured to a tree.

4. Summary of Practice

4.1 This practice provides guidelines for the selection of tests for the evaluation of the load capacity of ladder treestands, tripod type treestands and climbing sticks in accordance with manufacturer's capacity rating, particularly for quality assurance and adequacy of safety factors including:

4.1.1 Static load test.

4.1.2 Stability test.

4.1.3 Repetitive loading test.

NOTE 1—Steps only.

4.1.4 In the event of a repetitive load failure, manufacturer is to submit two additional stands for testing for final acceptance.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 This practice is provided to develop and maintain uniformity for the evaluation of the load capacity of ladder and tripod type stands and climbing sticks, particularly with regard to quality assurance and safety factors.

5.2 It is emphasized that the use of these procedures will not alter the validity of data determined with specific test methods, but provides guidance in the interpretation of test results (valid or invalid) and guidance in the selection of a reasonable test procedure in those instances where no standard exists today.

6. Procedure

6.1 The following methods are recommended for individual units and situations: