

Field Test

By Bill Krenz

Family Tradition Treestands Double Ladder

More and more hunters are choosing to use ladder stands. In fact, ladder stands currently represent one of the fastest-growing segments of the entire tree-stand market. The best ladder stands are easy to set up, easy to access, safe and secure.

Among the finest ladder stands available today are those offered by Family Tradition Treestands.

Family Tradition ladder stands are unique in that they are unusually strong and stable. While most ladder stands utilize single, somewhat flexible upright ladder rails

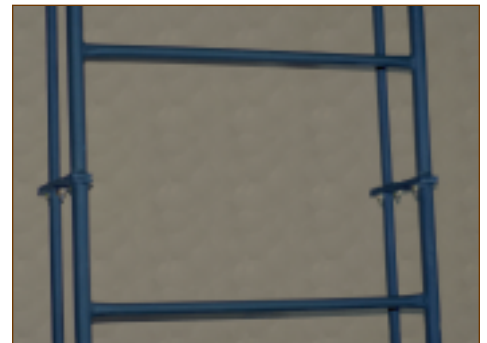
that must be shored up with all sorts of complicated and troublesome horizontal braces and straps, Family Tradition ladder stands feature a revolutionary double-rail ladder design that is marvelously rigid, safe and secure. The Family Tradition system is so strong and rigid that no additional horizontal bracing of any kind is required. All you do to mount a Family Tradition ladder stand to a tree is assemble the stand, press the bottom portion of the ladder into the ground to the level of the first rung and then secure the stand to the tree just below the stand's seat with the provided ratchet strap. That's it. There's no fumbling with additional braces, bars or straps in an attempt to control the ladder's flexing. The Family Tradition ladders simply don't flex.

Surprisingly, one of the most popular ladders in the Family Tradition ladder stand lineup is the DD14, the company's Double Ladder Stand.

"It's our second-best-selling unit," says company Managing Partner Jack Turner. "That's gratifying in a number of ways. First, it clearly speaks to the strength and



An optional camouflage skirt is available for the Family Tradition Double Ladder Stand. It's a smart addition that will keep you hidden.



The unique, bolted plate-to-plate connection system on the Family Tradition ladder stands locks sections together with rock-solid security.

security of our revolutionary double-rail ladder stands. It's also heartwarming to know that our stands are bringing hunters, and especially parents and children, together in the woods."

The Family Tradition Double Ladder



Stand is strong, secure and versatile. The engineering behind all that extra strength and security on the tree is rooted in the stand's ultra-rigid, double-rail ladder design, welded seat frame and bolted plate-to-plate connection system. The double-rail design serves up a rock-solid, rigid ladder. The welded seat frame results in a secure and stable perch. The unique plate-to-plate connection system locks each section, including the seat frame, together. I found that unique connection system particularly reassuring.

Each of the sections of the Family Tradition Double Ladder Stand features 7x1-inch metal connection plates sporting three bolt holes. The plates on one section are aligned with the plates on the next section and those plates are then bolted solidly together with three beefy bolts and lock nuts. By bolting one plate to another plate, the stand is amazingly rock solid after assembly.

In its standard configuration, the Family Tradition Double Ladder Stand measures a bit over 12 feet off the ground at the seat. An optional 41-inch ladder-extension section can be added to pop that height up to almost 16 feet at the seat.

It's often been said that a treestand is only as good as its seat. A proper seat is both comfortable and secure. The seat on the Family Tradition Double Ladder Stand is exceptional. It measures a full 42 inches long by 15 inches deep and is hand-webbed with 2-inch-wide premium nylon strapping. That makes this seat as comfortable as a quality lawn chair and as weather and rodent resistant as possible. This is the sort of stand you can leave out for long periods of time without fear of weather or animal damage.


I must admit that I'm finding quality ladder stands to be a superb choice for serious bowhunting. The best of them, like those offered by Family Tradition Treestands, go up easily, work with a wide variety of trees in many locations, offer easy access and are won-

derfully solid, safe and secure.

At the same time, I'm finding that the design, materials and construction of the Family Tradition line of ladder stands are especially impressive. I like the ultra-rigid, double-rail design, the plate-to-plate connection system, the comfortable nylon-webbing seat, the tubular steel construction, the easy-to-use ratchet strap and the full-body har-

ness safety system that is provided by the company with each stand.

Family Tradition makes great tree-stands. They're the kind of stands that can provide any hunter an advantage, while keeping them safe, secure and comfortable.

For more information, log onto familytraditiontreestands.com, call Family Tradition Treestands at 

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