

Optional Extras

Note! We recommend reading the accompanying document, *Understanding Your Product*, before reading this guide. The information within this guide assumes that the reader has a good understanding of the differences in the units we offer. If you need a copy of the *Understanding Your Product* guide, please contact your project consultant.

This document describes the optional extras that are available for the Bcompact Folding Stairs and Ladders. Not all extras are available for all versions of the product. The extras that are available for your specific design will be listed with their costs in your quote when you receive it.

We also offer minor customisations under certain circumstances for a customisation fee.

If you have any questions about the extras or customisations available, please reach out to your Project Consultant.

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1. Overview

Table 1 summarises which optional extras are available for each variation of our Stair and Ladder. Please note that the Narrow and Wide variations do not alter the available extras and are therefore not listed.

Table 1. Optional extras

	Stain	Exterior Sealer	Folding Handrail	Stand-off Handrail	Bottom Lock	Top Lock	Gate	Embedded Spring	Extended Top Step
Fixed Step Stair	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Full-Fold Stair	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗
Fixed Step Ladder	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Full Fold Ladder	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗

2. Stains and Finishes

All Stair and Ladder units are supplied standard in natural bamboo, finished with a high-quality polyurethane sealer to protect the bamboo and enhance durability, as well as a P4 & P5 non-slip coating on the walking surface of the steps.

Stains

If you prefer a different colour, you can choose from our available stains for an additional cost. Figure 1 shows the range of stains that we offer. Please note that the white finish is paint, not stain. As a result, the final product will not show the grain of the bamboo.

Our team takes great care in applying finishes to the product to maximise the visual appeal without affecting the tolerances of the moving parts. We do not recommend staining or painting the unit yourself as various types of finishes interact poorly with the natural bamboo material. Consequently, we do not offer a colour-matching service as we cannot guarantee an exact match with your requested colour.

Exterior Sealer

If your unit is being installed outside, or in an area where it will be exposed to moisture or high humidity, we recommend opting for our exterior grade sealer. This sealer is UV resistant and has superior waterproofing properties to resist the harsher exterior conditions.

Please note that the exterior sealer imparts a red tint on the unit and may alter the colour of the unit when finished. For this reason, we do not recommend choosing the white finish for an exterior unit.

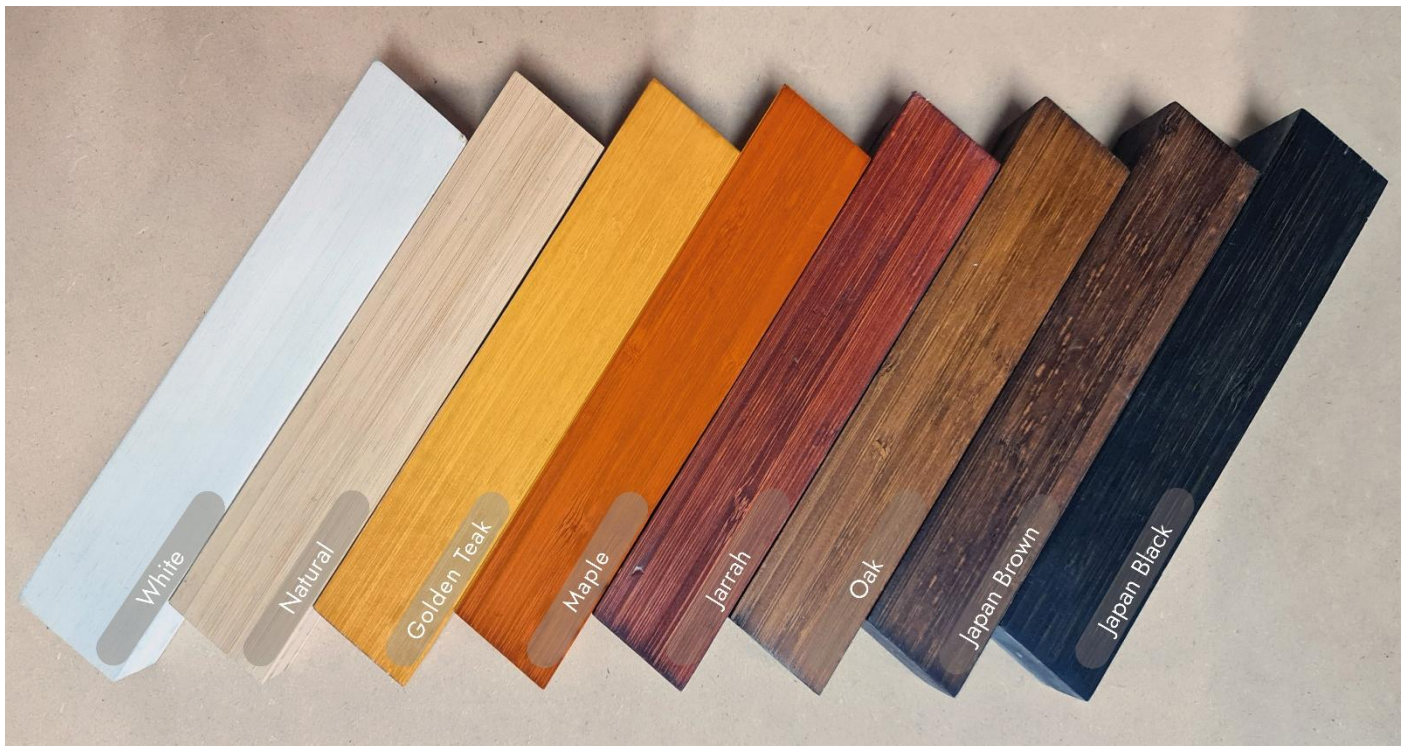


Figure 1. Stain options.

3. Handrails

Every variation of the Folding Stairs and Ladders can have a handrail fitted. The Stair units include a patented folding handrail as standard. The Ladders have two handrail options, but do not include a handrail in the default price. Please keep reading for more information regarding why the Ladder does not require a handrail.

All versions of the handrail can be made shorter at either the top or bottom to avoid obstructions.

Folding Handrail

The patented folding handrail comes standard with every Stair unit. Much like the unit itself, this handrail folds away when the product is closed. The folding handrail is not available for the ladder versions of the product.

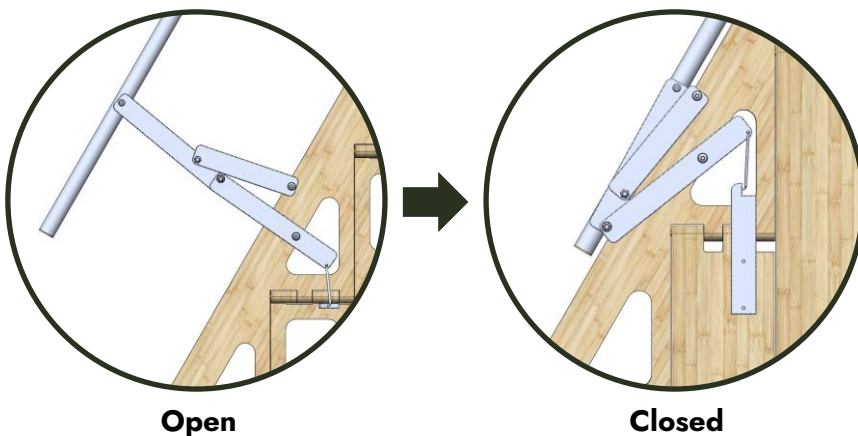


Figure 2. Stair handrail in open and closed positions.

The mechanisms that drive the folding movement of the handrail utilise a lever action that is produced as the treads and stringers fold together or apart. To produce this movement, the two mechanisms (one near the top of the unit and one in the lower half) have arms that extend approximately 70mm [2.75"] past the width of the unit when opened. It is very important that these 'lever arms' have sufficient clearance area to move during operation, especially past the ceiling hole.

Fixed Handrail

Due to the steeper angle of the Ladders, the moving stringer is in a comfortable position to use as a handhold for ascending and descending. However, if you prefer a dedicated handrail for added comfort and support, you can instead opt for a fixed stand-off option.

The fixed handrail is available in two different stand-off heights: regular and extended. The regular stand-offs position the handrail approximately 38mm [1.5"] above the stringer. This is a comfortable alternative to using the stringer as a handhold for all Ladder angles. The extended stand-offs position the handrail approximately 200mm [7.9"] above the stringer. We recommend that the extended stand-offs only be used for Ladders with an angle of 65° or less. This is because the longer stand-offs position the handrail too high for comfortable use on steeper units.

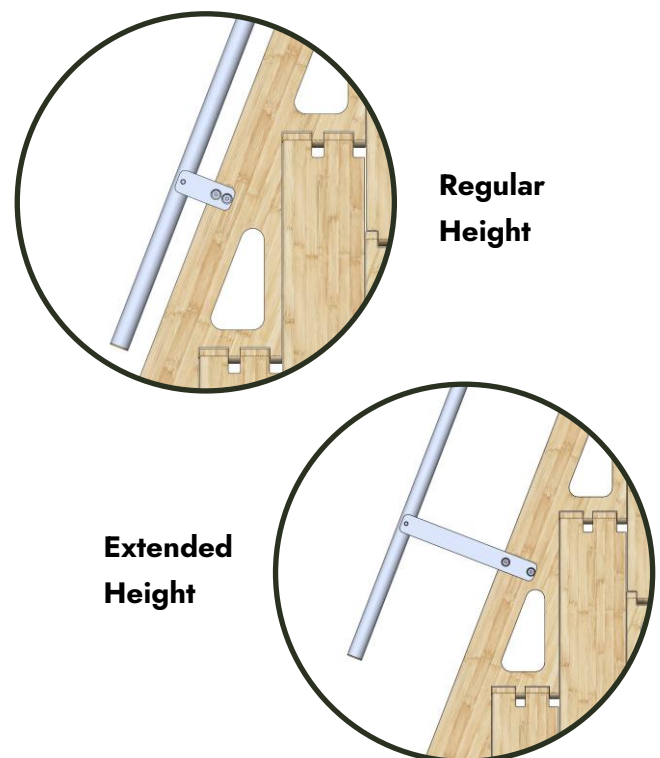


Figure 3. The two stand-off options for Ladders.

4. Locks

All variations of the Folding Stairs and Ladders are counterbalanced with a spring system to lighten the weight of the unit during opening and closing. This also prevents them from 'falling' open when closed against the wall. However, if you would like to ensure your unit can be locked in place to temporarily prevent all opening or closing, we offer two locking options: the bottom lock to keep the unit in the closed position, and the top lock to keep the unit in the open position.

Bottom Lock

The bottom lock is primarily used to prevent people using the unit or to discourage unwanted access to the upper level. The lock is located at the base of the unit and consists of a pin that is housed inside the moving stringer foot.

To lock the unit closed, the pin is pushed forward into the lowest step. This prevents the moving stringer and step, and therefore the whole unit, from moving apart. To unlock the bottom lock, the 'key' is threaded into the pin and pulled back out of the step.

Top Lock

The top lock is embedded in the top step of the Fixed Step variants of the product and is unavailable in the Full-Fold versions. Unlike the bottom lock, this lock is not designed to prevent access, but rather to ensure that the unit remains open if there is someone on the upper level.

The top lock bridges between the fixed top step and the moving stringer when the unit is open to prevent movement.

5. Other

The following optional extras are more premium additions to your unit.

Gate

The gate provides an added layer of security and is finished in matching bamboo and aluminium to complement your unit seamlessly. The gate is only available on the Stair Fixed Step versions of the unit as it is integrated into the fixed top step. In general, the gate is not offered for Ladders and is incompatible with Full-Fold designs. If you are looking to purchase a Ladder design and would like the gate add-on, please discuss the option with your Project Consultant.

Please note that you might need to make minor adjustments to your surroundings, such as installing a balustrade on one or more sides to close any gaps and ensure a safe, enclosed space on the upper level.

Embedded Spring

All Stair and Ladder versions use a spring to counterbalance the weight of the unit during opening and closing. This system uses a string and pulley system to position the spring discreetly below the fixed stringer; however, it is always in view as standard. The Embedded Spring option hides the spring within the fixed stringer so it is no longer in view. This option creates a cleaner appearance.

Please note that there is a section of the string and pulley system that is exposed by necessity and is therefore not hidden by the Embedded Spring option.

Extended Top Step

This is an option for Stair and Ladder Fixed Step designs but is incompatible with Full-Fold variants. The extended fixed top step acts as a platform at the top of the unit. This option is recommended as a solution for two distinct situations: to move the unit clear of an upper-level obstruction or to provide additional space for dismounting.

If your install space leads up to a doorway or similar vertical obstruction, the extended top step can help to ensure a full size handrail can be utilised. Similarly, if your unit extends over a doorway, the extended top step can ensure that the door is able to fully open, even if the unit is in the open position.