

STEPPING POLES

GENERAL

Contents	Page
1. General	1
2. Poles to be Stepped	2
3. Placing Spike-Head Pole Steps	3
4. Placing Mountings for Detachable Pole Steps	3
5. Checking Steps Placed	4

1. GENERAL

- 1.01 This series of practices covers stepping poles.
- 1.02 Where wooden pole steps are found on poles (joint use or non-joint use) carrying Telephone Company circuits, they shall be removed immediately. There shall be no exceptions to this rule.
- 1.03 When a complaint is received from a customer, property owner, or occupant of premises adjacent to a Company-owned pole to the effect that such pole has been climbed by unauthorized persons to gain access to roofs or for any other purpose, ALL of the steps shall be removed from this pole. To prevent resteping, a metal tag bearing the words, "DO NOT STEP," shall be placed on the pole in accordance with the instructions for installing these tags, which will be found in the section covering Marking Poles. Such action, however, shall not be taken in connection with any joint pole described in Paragraph 2.01 (d) of this section.
- 1.04 For information about the conditions under which CR Pole Steps should be used, refer to the section of the Practices covering the use of corrosion-resistant, CR material.

2. POLES TO BE STEPPED

2.01 The following poles shall, in general, be stepped:

- (a) Poles carrying distributing or cross-connecting terminals.
- (b) Poles carrying gas pressure testing equipment or poles from which valve points may be reached.
- (c) Important junction and test poles or other poles frequently climbed.
- (d) All poles used jointly with electric light or power utilities, if vertical risers of supply or telephone conductors are attached to the poles.
- (e) Joint poles carrying pole mounted loading coil cases.
- (f) Joint poles carrying vertical runs of power conductors, excluding ground wires protected with wood moulding, extending into or through the telephone conductor attachment level.
- (g) Joint poles carrying vertical runs of telephone conductors which exceed two feet in length.

2.02 Poles carrying open wire only ordinarily are not stepped. If stepping is required, however, place steps only to the lowest crossarm.

2.03 No pole in the immediate vicinity of schools, playgrounds or amusement centers where displays or contests are held, shall have any permanent pole steps located between the ground line and a point 7 ft. 6 in. above the surface of any adjacent structure that may be used as a starting point for climbing the pole. Such structures include trees, fences, buildings, loading platforms, raised walkways, etc. However, this action shall not be taken in connection with any joint pole described in Paragraph 2.01 (d) of this section.

3. PLACING SPIKE-HEAD POLE STEPS

3.01 Poles may be bored for steps either before or after the pole is erected.

3.02 Bore lead holes for pole steps as follows:

(a) In cedar and ponderosa pine poles, bore 3/8-inch lead holes 2 to 3 inches deep.

(b) In all other pole timbers, bore 1/2-inch lead holes 4 to 4-1/2 inches deep.

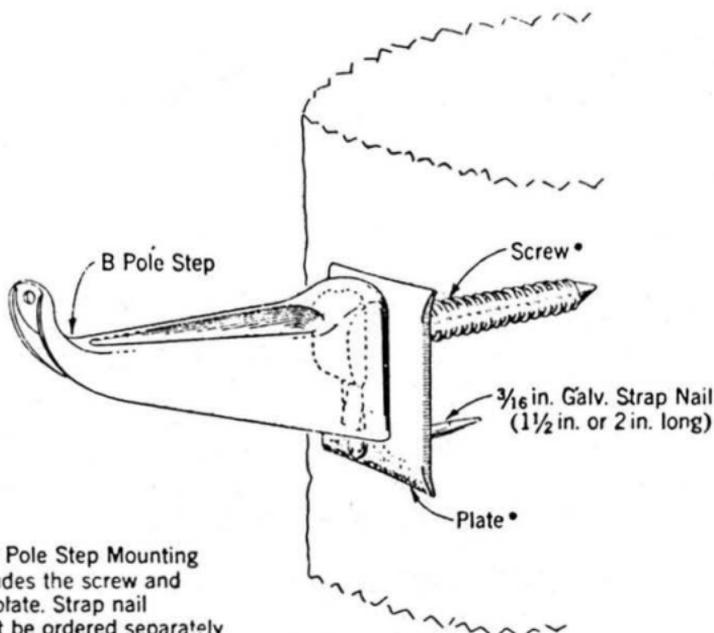
(c) When boring holes for double steps at locations where the diameter of the pole is less than 8 inches, bore one of the holes about 1 inch below the hole on the opposite side of the pole.

3.03 Drive spike-head pole steps into the pole until the distance between the surface of the pole and the inside of the head of the step is 5-1/2 inches. (New spike-head pole steps have a raised or knurled ring around the shank at a distance of 5-1/2 inches from the inside of the head.)

4. PLACING MOUNTINGS FOR DETACHABLE POLE STEPS

4.01 Bore a 3/8-inch lead hole about 2 inches deep at the desired locations of the steps. Insert the screw through the hole in the mounting plate and drive the screw into the lead hole. Exercise care to have the long edges of the plate and the head of the screw in a vertical position. Screw shall be driven in until all edges of the plate are well impressed into the surface of the pole. Drive a 1-1/2-inch or 2-inch, 3/16-inch galvanized Strap Nail through the hole in the plate to prevent the plate from turning.

4.02 The following sketch illustrates a detachable pole step installation.



• The B Pole Step Mounting includes the screw and the plate. Strap nail must be ordered separately

5. CHECKING STEPS PLACED

5.01 After all steps are placed, the distance between the lowest spike-head pole step and the ground line shall be checked to insure that the lowest step is not less than 7 ft. 6 in. from the ground line.

5.02 After stepping has been completed, a careful check shall be made to insure that the location of any step does not present a hazardous condition and that any shifting of steps has been completed.

5.03 The installation of B Pole Step Mountings shall be checked by placing a step on the screw to see that it seats properly. If necessary, the screw should be aligned to obtain a satisfactory fit. Before leaving the job, remove detachable steps.