

Primitive Ladder

by Bob Gillis



The photo above is of an early indigenous ladder displayed at the Oakland Museum in California.

I made a similar wooden ladder from a recycled 8" by 8" redwood beam.



We used a bandsaw to remove the bulk of the notches. The detail and finish work was done with a small adze. Other woods would work including sections of logs. Try to find well seasoned wood (standing dead for a long time) to reduce checking (large cracks forming in the wood - most extreme when green or freshly cut wood is used).



The finished ladder has a pleasing, sculpted look and is quite functional.