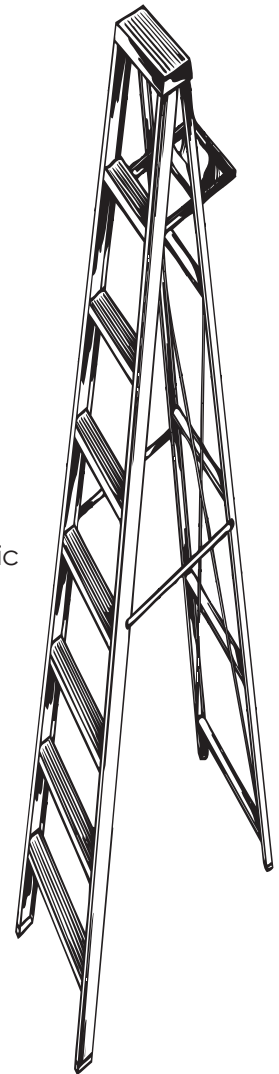


# One Rung at a Time

**What is a career ladder?** Developing your career ladder gives you control of your future. Your career ladder lets you decide where you want to be in your career at future points in time. For example, Jeff wants to be a master mechanic for a Ford dealership. He will start preparing for this career in high school. We will assume that Jeff starts his first job at a minimum wage of \$8.00 an hour. Here are the steps up the ladder that Jeff has planned:

## Jeff's Career Ladder

- ↔ **Master Mechanic - Twenty years after graduation**  
 Become a Master Mechanic at the local Ford dealership  
 Be in charge of other mechanics in the dealership  
 Diagnose problems and check other mechanics' work  
 Making seven times minimum wage per hour
- ↑ **Mechanic - Ten years after graduation**  
 Works under a master mechanic at the local Ford dealership  
 Have all work meet highest standards  
 Attend all company trainings to improve skills  
 Making three times minimum wage per hour
- ↑ **Mechanic helper - Five years after graduation**  
 Work with and learn from a master mechanic  
 Have all work done correctly when checked by the master mechanic  
 Become a trainee at the local Ford dealership  
 Making two times minimum wage per hour
- ↑ **Mechanic trainee - First year after graduation**  
 Complete a training program at the local community college  
 Work part time at a tune-up shop while attending training class  
 Making minimum wage
- ↑ **High School Student - Now**  
 Graduate from high school  
 Take auto and math classes to prepare for auto career
- ↑ **START HERE**  
 Jeff starts here to climb the ladder. Each section describes the rung and the goals he must accomplish to go to the next rung.



## Career Ladder Goal Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe each rung of your career ladder. Then write the goal you need to set for each rung. For example, if rung #1 is "Graduate from high school," you would set a goal such as: "I will get passing grades in all my classes by turning in all my work and preparing for my tests." Timeline: "I will do this by June, \_\_\_\_\_."

**Rung #1:** \_\_\_\_\_

1st Goal: \_\_\_\_\_

Timeline: \_\_\_\_\_

**Rung #2:** \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Goal: \_\_\_\_\_

Timeline: \_\_\_\_\_

**Rung #3:** \_\_\_\_\_

3rd Goal: \_\_\_\_\_

Timeline: \_\_\_\_\_