

REMOVE A FIREFIGHTER OUT A WINDOW

Alternate Method (Creating a Human Ramp)

The removal of a heavy firefighter out of a window onto a ladder is a serious challenge. If the window sill is high or if the working space is constricted, rescuing firefighters on the inside will have severe difficulty in getting the unconscious firefighter out of the window. In order to create a "human ramp" to move an unconscious firefighter out of a window, do the following:



Figure A

- Have one rescuing firefighter lay face down (prone) along the floor, perpendicular to the window, with their arms along side them in a "pushup" position. This rescuing firefighter's head should be facing away from the window.
- Additional rescuers roll the unconscious firefighter onto the back of the rescuing firefighter who is lying in the prone position. (See Figure A)
- The rescuing firefighter who is lying in the prone position will have to have his SCBA removed so the unconscious firefighter will stay on his/her back. In a smoke condition, the rescuing firefighter who is lying in the prone position will have his/her SCBA lying next to them with the facepiece still connected to the rescuer's face.

- After the victim is in place on the prone rescuer's back; the prone rescuer raises himself/herself up to their hands and knees by using his/her legs, arms and back muscles. This action will raise the victim up and toward the window. The additional rescuers should raise the victim's feet to guide them to the windowsill. Additional rescuers can then guide the victim onto the ladder to an awaiting firefighter. (See Figure B)



Figure B