

# Drifter Projects: *Engine Room Ladder Steps*

*m/v Drifter (American Tug 34)*

*Ray Henry*

## Description

Steps to alleviate pain when descending engine room ladder barefoot.

## Parts Ordered

1. 4pcs of 12" aluminum channel from Online Metals (<http://www.onlinemetals.com>) The inside width of the 1.25" overall channel is 1", just the same diameter of the bars on the ladder,



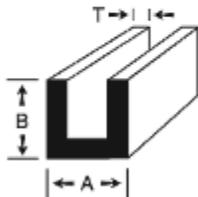
### EXTRUDED ARCHITECTURAL ALUMINUM BARE CHANNEL 6063 T52

6063-T52 Aluminum Architectural Channel (1.25" x 1.25" x 0.125") is excellent for outdoor use and architectural trim due to its superior corrosion resistance. 6063-T52 Aluminum is a softer and more formable alloy than 6061.

View our "Guide to Aluminum" for available grades, shapes and additional information.

Mill Test Reports are available on this item and can be selected during the checkout process.

Material Meets These Standard(s): AMS-QQ-A 200/9, ASTM B221



DIMENSIONS		Weight/Lineal Foot: 0.526 pounds
Dimension Name	Value	
Base	1.25"	
Legs	1.25"	
Wall	0.125"	

Available Sizes

Create a Custom Size

Technical Information

- Random Length (10'-12') - \$3.27
- One Ft. (12") Length - \$3.63
- Two Ft. (24") Length - \$6.97
- Three Ft. (36") Length - \$9.80
- Four Ft. (48") Length - \$11.61
- Five Ft. (60") Length - \$13.78
- Six Ft. (72") Length - \$16.12
- Seven Ft. (84") Length - \$18.29
- Eight Ft. (96") Length - \$20.32

2. Left over mahogany from a previous project.
3. Stainless screws and bolts

## Assembly

I had some very thin scraps of mahogany leftover from a previous project, so I laminated two of them together with epoxy to make a 1/2" thick step. I used a round-head router bit and cut some "treads" into the steps and then coated with urethane.



I clamped the aluminum channel to each step, carefully making sure the top surface was horizontal with the ladder's vertical position, and drilled holes through both the aluminum channel and the step bar at the same time.

I marked each bracket underneath because I was certain my holes would come out different on each one!

Then I clamped the brackets to the bottom of the wood step and drilled some holes for wood screws. I both screwed and epoxied the wood steps to the brackets.



## Completion

Finally, I used 1/2-20 bolts through the brackets and ladder with nylock nuts on the back side. Here is a photo installed. Boy, that feels a lot better on the feet!

