

ASBESTOS

Instructions

All work activities involving asbestos are now covered by the: Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012.

If you own, occupy, manage or have responsibilities for premises that may contain asbestos you will either have:-

- A legal duty to manage the risk from this material; or
- A duty to cooperate with whoever manages the risk.

If you have information on the whereabouts of asbestos, you will, under the duty of cooperation, be required to make this available to those responsible for managing these risks.

Why is Asbestos Dangerous?

Breathing in air containing asbestos fibres can lead to asbestos related diseases, mainly cancers of the lungs and chest lining. There is no cure for Asbestos related diseases.

Who is At Risk?



Anyone who uses your premises if asbestos is present during work involving drilling, sawing or cutting into the fabric of the premises could be at risk.

Where is Asbestos Found?

Some asbestos material is more vulnerable to damage than others and more likely to give off fibres. In general, materials which contain a high percentage of asbestos are more easily damaged.

You are most likely to come across asbestos in these materials:

- Sprayed asbestos generally fire protection in ducts, firebreaks, panels, partitions, soffit boards and in ceiling panels.
- Moulded/preformed lagging generally breaks in thermal insulation of pipes & boilers.
- Cement tiles
- Cement products in fully or semi compressed corrugated sheets. Largely used as roofing & wall cladding. Other cement products include gutters, drainpipes and water tanks.
- Texture coatings.
- Vinyl or thermoplastic floor tiles.

LOW RISK MATERIALS	HIGH RISK MATERIALS
	

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WHAT MUST I DO TO COMPLY WITH REGULATIONS			
FIND	You MUST check (survey) what materials contain asbestos and what type the asbestos is.	RECORD	Record and label the location & condition of all identified asbestos.
CONDITION	You MUST check what condition the materials are in.	ASSESS	Decide if the location/condition means the material could be disturbed.
PRESUME	Unless you have strong evidence that it is not, you MUST ASSUME the material contains asbestos.	PLAN	Prepare & implement a plan to manage the risks.
IDENTIFY	If you plan maintenance work it would be wise to it would be wise to arrange specialist sampling.	INFORM	Make all persons who do or who may work in the area aware of the presence.

Important Notice: Your Health & Safety Information Sheet is for guidance only. It does not replace our written Health & Safety policies and procedures and you must make sure you are fully aware of these.

Training Courses: For more details on our Health & Safety Training courses available, please contact our learning Zone department via email: learningzone@shrec.org.uk or visit our website: www.shrec.org.uk