

Dos and don'ts

- Do leave asbestos materials where they are if in a good condition and cannot be damaged.
- Do not work with, damage or remove materials that you know, or think, might contain asbestos.
- Do not rub down or sand a product that you know, or think, might contain asbestos (for example, artex).
- Do not drill through an asbestos product as this will release fibres, which can cause lung damage if inhaled.
- Do not break off pieces from materials you know, or think, may contain asbestos.
- What should I do if I find it?

If you think there are materials in your home that contain asbestos, please contact us. We will arrange for a member of staff or contractor to inspect it and decide what should happen next.

Can I remove it myself?

No. Removing asbestos is a job for the experts. Only appointed contractors with a special licence can do this.



All contractors employed by Cirencester Housing are aware of asbestos and will inform us immediately if they see any problems in your home.

If you have any concerns about asbestos and how it could affect you please contact Cirencester Housing.

Tel: 01285 658377

Email: contact@cirencesterhousing.org.uk

There is also more detailed information on the Health and Safety Executive website:

www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos

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A guide to

ASBESTOS SAFETY IN YOUR HOME





What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a natural fibrous material that was used as a popular building material between the 1950s and 1980s. Properties built during this time are most likely to contain some form of asbestos material. It is a good insulator and has fire and heat resistant properties, but asbestos was also found to be a health risk. It was therefore banned from use as a building material and strict regulations were introduced. Because it was often mixed with another material, it is hard to tell if it is present in building materials.

Should I worry if I find asbestos?

There is no need to panic. It is unlikely to be a danger to your health as long as it is undamaged and has not been disturbed. The health risk comes when fibres are released from damaged asbestos.

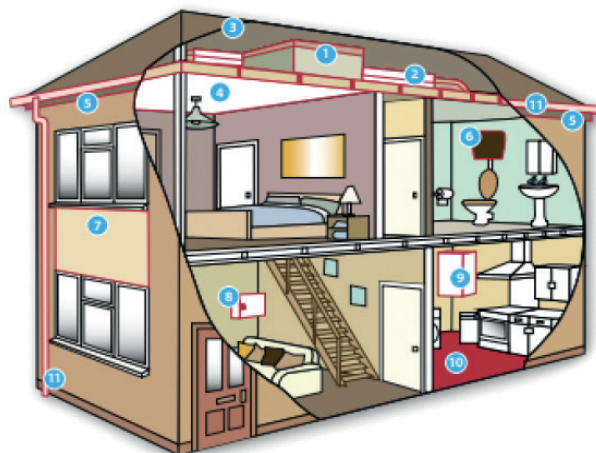
They can be harmful when inhaled. If you are concerned, please call 01285 658377.

Asbestos materials can also be found in:

Garage roof sheets, Panels behind fires or heaters
Panels on the back of fire doors Partition walls
Service ducts Soil and vent pipes

Where can asbestos be found in homes?

1. Cold water tanks
2. Pipe lagging
3. Roof felt, sheets and tiles
4. Textured coatings (such as artex)
5. Fascia and soffit boards (such as roof overhangs)
6. Toilet cisterns
7. Wall panels
8. Fuseboards
9. Boiler/heater cupboard
10. Floor tiles



What are we doing about asbestos?

We employ an asbestos contractor to undertake surveys of our properties to check which are most likely to contain asbestos and to look at the condition of any asbestos materials we find. This information is kept on a register, which helps us to monitor asbestos and manage it safely. Any material containing asbestos we find that's in a poor condition is being emancipated, repaired or removed.

If you wish to carry out any work to your property, YOU MUST CONTACT US prior to starting so the register can be checked.

What should I do if I find it?

If you think you have disturbed asbestos, please contact us. We will arrange for a member of staff or approved contractor to inspect it and decide what course of action needs to be taken.

Asbestos is not a risk if it is in good condition and is not disturbed.