



Asbestos

If you have asbestos in your home, it's not dangerous unless it becomes damaged or disturbed. Asbestos in good condition is not a hazard.

What is asbestos?

Asbestos is not used in construction today, but it was used as a building material from the 1950s until 1999, so any building constructed or refurbished before 2000 could contain it.

Why is asbestos dangerous?

The fibres or dust released when asbestos is damaged or disturbed can cause serious lung diseases. The symptoms of these diseases might not appear for up to 30 years after exposure to asbestos, so it is vital to protect yourself today.

Where is asbestos found?

Loft and cavity wall insulation don't normally contain asbestos. Asbestos fibres were typically mixed into cement, plaster, and other materials. As a result, asbestos is often found in:

- insulation board
- gutters, rainwater pipes, water tanks, garages or shed roofing sheets
- textured coatings, such as ceiling finishes
- floor tiles and textiles
- sprayed coatings on ceilings, walls, and beams for fire protection
- pipe lagging

What to do if you think there's asbestos in your home

Leave asbestos alone. Never cut, drill, sand, scrape or try to remove any asbestos-based materials.

If suspect your home may contain asbestos, phone us on 01506 439291 for advice. If you aren't sure if something contains asbestos, it's safer to presume it does.

How we deal with asbestos

If you think you have asbestos and your property hasn't already been surveyed, we'll arrange a professional asbestos survey.

If asbestos is found, there are four options depending on the risk identified.

1. Remove the asbestos.
2. Encapsulate or 'coat' it.
3. Seal off the area containing the asbestos.
4. Leave it in place and regularly check its condition. You should phone us if it later becomes damaged or deteriorates.

All asbestos work is carried out by contractors with a special licence and in accordance with strict safety regulations.

Can I make home improvements?

Please contact us on 01506 439291 and we can tell you if there is any asbestos in your home or we can arrange for a survey to check for it.

Remember, you need permission from us before carrying out any improvements or alterations to your home.