

Important information about

Asbestos

This leaflet contains information about asbestos, what it is, where it can be found and what you should do if you think you may have found asbestos in your home.

What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a naturally-occurring mineral that was a popular building material used widely up until 2000, when regulations were brought in restricting its use. Buildings constructed between the 1950s and 1980s are most likely to contain some form of asbestos material.

Asbestos was used because it is a good insulator and offered heat, electrical and fire resistance within properties. It was later found to be a health risk, if disturbed.

If asbestos materials are undamaged or if they are in places where they cannot easily be disturbed, there is no significant risk to health. It is only when asbestos is broken up (*and small fibres are released and breathed in*) that they may pose a possible health risk.

All asbestos products were banned from building use in 2000 so if your home was built after this date, it is highly unlikely that it will have asbestos present.



Where is it found?



Textured finishes to ceilings and walls – known as Artex



Vinyl flooring and floor tiles



Bath panels



Insulation board panels to boxing of pipework in bathrooms and kitchens



Fire break materials used in lofts



Panels above windows and doors



Panels underneath stairs



Corrugated roof sheets to sheds and garages



Gas flue pipes and toilet waste pipes

What should I do if I find asbestos?



Don't panic. If you believe you have discovered an asbestos containing material (acm), please contact Your Response on 0345 345 0272 and they will advise of the steps we can take to ensure it is dealt with in the correct way.

Examples of asbestos



Asbestos fibres



Asbestos roof sheets



Asbestos insulation board



Artex textured finish

Can I remove asbestos?

No. Removing asbestos materials can be a health hazard and Your Housing Group has expert contractors that can attend and remove acms if deemed to be damaged or in poor condition.

What if I want to carry out DIY?

You can carry out decorating and DIY, but you **must** take note of the advice relating to asbestos that may be present in your home. **Asbestos should not be drilled, sanded, rubbed down or disturbed** in any other way. **If in doubt, call Your Response.**

How is Your Housing Group making homes asbestos safe?

To comply with current legislation, we have carried out asbestos surveys of communal areas in our properties and we inspect these on an annual basis. We also carry out an asbestos survey prior to intrusive repair works or refurbishments taking place to identify where asbestos has been found in our residents' homes and non-domestic areas, prior to works taking place.

Dos and Don'ts

DO leave asbestos materials where they are and seek advice if needed.

If they're in good condition and cannot be damaged, there is no need to be concerned.

DO contact Your Response if you have concerns about asbestos.

DON'T carry out any work with or remove materials that you are unsure of, as they may contain asbestos.

DON'T drill, scrape or sand down materials that may contain asbestos such as textured coatings to ceilings and walls.

DON'T break off pieces from materials that you are unsure of or know to contain asbestos.

If you're concerned about asbestos in your home, please call Your Response on **0345 345 0272** or visit www.yourhousinggroup.co.uk

Get in touch



yourhousinggroup.co.uk



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