

This is important. If you do not understand this document then please ask a friend or relative, who speaks English, to contact your local neighbourhood office or housing team on your behalf. We will then arrange for an interpreter to meet with you.

هذه الرسالة مهمة، فإن لم تفهمها نرجو أن تطلب من أحد أصدقائك أو أقربائك ممن يتكلمون الإنجليزية أن يتصل بمكتب الحى "بيبرهود أوفيس" المحلي أو فريق الإسكان نيابة عنك. بعد ذلك سنرتب للقاء بك مع وجود مترجم فوري.

ARABIC

এটা খুবই গুরুত্বপূর্ণ। আপনি এই দলিলটি বুঝতে না পারলে দয়া করে ইংরেজীতে কথা বলতে পারেন এরপূর্ণ আপনার একজন বন্ধু-বান্ধব বা আত্মীয়কে আপনার পক্ষ হয়ে আপনার স্থানীয় নেইবারহুড অফিস বা হাউজিং টিম এর সঙ্গে যোগাযোগ করতে বলুন। এরপর আমরা আপনার সঙ্গে সাফল্য করার ব্যবস্থা করব এবং এতে সহায়তার জন্য একজন ইন্টারপ্রিটার রাখা হবে।

BENGALI

此事極為重要，如果你看不懂這份文件，請找一位會講英語的親戚或朋友代你接觸當地的鄰舍辦事處或房屋服務隊。然後我們會安排傳譯員一起見你。

CHINESE

این اطلاعات بسیار مهم است. اگر محتوی این مدرک را نمی فهمید، لطفاً از یک دوست یا خویشاوندان که به زبان انگلیسی صحبت کرده می توانند خواهش کنید که از طرف شما با بیبرهود آفس یا هوزنگ تیم محل شما تماس بگیرد. بعداً ما برای شما مترجم فراهم می کنیم که با شما ملاقات کند.

FARSI

Message important. Si vous ne comprenez pas ce document, demandez à un ami ou à un membre de votre famille qui parle anglais, de prendre contact en votre nom avec votre bureau de voisinage ou avec l'équipe du logement. Nous prendrons alors les dispositions nécessaires pour qu'un interprète soit présent.

FRENCH

نہم دہقہ نووسینہ گرنگہ. نہگہر نہم نووسینہ تینہگیشیتیت تکلیہ نہم کاتہ داوا بکہ لہ برادرنیک یان خز میک، کہ بہ زمانی نینگلیزی دھنوی، پویونڈی بکات بہ نووسینگہی ہاوسیتی "نہیبر ہود نؤ فیس" ناوچہکست یان بہ تیمی خانووبہرہ لہ جیاتی تہ. نہم کاتہ تیمہ ہمدستین بہ ریکخستنی چاویکومتیک لہگمت وہ بہ نامادمیونوی وھرگیری زمان.

KURDISH

Ważne! Jeżeli nie rozumiesz treści tego dokumentu, zwróć się o pomoc do przyjaciela lub krewnego, który mówi po angielsku, aby skontaktował się w Twoim imieniu z lokalnym Biurem Środowiskowym (Neighbourhood Office) lub wydziałem do spraw mieszkaniowych (Housing Team). Złatwimy wtedy dla Ciebie tłumacza.

POLISH

ਇਹ ਗੱਲ ਬੜੀ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਹੈ। ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਪਰਚੇ ਦੀ ਸਮਝ ਨਹੀਂ ਲੱਗਦੀ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਪਣੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਬੋਲਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਦੋਸਤ ਜਾਂ ਰਿਸ਼ਤੇਦਾਰ ਨੂੰ ਕਹੋ ਕਿ ਉਹ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਸਥਾਨਕ ਨੇਬਰਹੁੱਡ ਔਫਿਸ ਜਾਂ ਹਾਊਸਿੰਗ ਟੀਮ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੇ। ਉਸ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਅਦ ਅਸੀਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੱਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਚਾਹੀਂ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਗੱਲ ਕਰਨ ਦਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ ਕਰਾਂਗੇ।

PUNJABI

داہر مهم معلومات دی. کہ تاسی پہ دی سند نہ پوچھری نو مہربانی و کھری دخیل یوملگری یا خپلوان نہ چہ پہ انگریزی ژہ خبری کولای شی غوبنته و کھری چہ سناسی لہ خواستاسی دسیمی نیبرهود آفس یا هوزنگ تیم سرہ پہ تماس کی شی. بیا بہ مونیر ترجمان برابر کھو چہ سناسی سرہ کتنه و کھری.

PUSHTO

Hadii aadan fahmin waxa kuqoran boog yarahan (warqadan) fadlan waydiiso qof saaxiibkaa ama qaraabadaada ah oo kuhadla afka ingiriisiga inuu kuu waco xafiiska dariska ee kuu dhaw (neighbourhood office) ama kooxda guryaha asaga oo adiga kumatalaya. Markaa kadib waxaan kuu balaminaynaa atceliye (turjubaan).

SOMALI

یہ دستاویز اہم ہے۔ اگر آپ اس دستاویز کو سمجھنے سے قاصر ہیں تو براہ کرم انگریزی زبان سے واقف اپنے کسی دوست یا رشتہ دار سے کہئے کہ وہ آپ کی جانب سے آپ کے مقامی نمبر ہوز آفس یا آؤسنگ ٹیم سے رابطہ کریں۔ ہم پھر آپ سے ملاقات کرنے کیلئے ایک ترجمان زبان کا انتظام کریں گے۔

URDU

If you would like this leaflet in large print, Braille, or on audio CD, please call your local housing team.

Asbestos in the home

Guidance for tenants



Housing and Constituencies

About this leaflet

This leaflet gives useful information about asbestos in your home. It covers how to tell whether you have asbestos in your home, why it could be a problem and what to do if you want to carry out any DIY in your home.

What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a type of mineral that was used widely as a building and insulation material in homes built between 1945 and 1985. The most common types of asbestos are white asbestos (chrysotile), brown asbestos (amosite) and blue asbestos (crocidolite).

Asbestos fibres are strong and resistant to chemicals and heat, which made it a popular choice for insulation and fire protection, and as a reinforcer for other materials.

What was asbestos used for?

Asbestos was used in many parts of the home, including

ceiling and floor tiles, roof slates, lagging around boilers and heating pipes, ducting and bath panels. It was also used for household products such as ironing boards and oven gloves.

Does my home have asbestos?

If your home was built or refurbished between 1945 and 1985, it is very likely that there is asbestos in your home. Almost every home built or refurbished then, including council properties, used this building material. From the mid 1980s, asbestos was used much less often in homes.

The use of asbestos insulation and most types of asbestos was banned as a building material in 1999 because of the health risk it carries. Homes built after that date do not contain asbestos.

Why might asbestos be a problem?

Over time, asbestos materials age or become damaged, and

fibres can escape into the air. The danger comes from drilling, cutting, sanding or disturbing materials and then breathing in the dust. These fibres can be breathed in, where they stay a long time and may cause damage. When very high levels of these fibres are breathed in, there is a higher risk of lung diseases, including cancer.

The risk is greater for people who have worked with asbestos for many years or for people who washed their dusty work clothes, as they would have breathed in more asbestos fibres. The risk is also higher for people who smoke, as they have a higher risk of lung disease.

The risk for people who have not worked with asbestos is low. Asbestos in the home is not dangerous unless it is disturbed. If the asbestos is in good condition and not likely to be damaged, it is safest to leave it where it is.

If we find asbestos in a tenant's home, we will inspect and monitor the condition of the

asbestos at appropriate intervals.

Do not attempt to remove it. It is against the law for anyone except trained, licensed professionals to attempt to remove and dispose of asbestos.

How to recognise asbestos

Unless you have a good working knowledge of asbestos, it won't be easy to recognise asbestos in your home. Asbestos comes in many different shapes and forms.

The white asbestos sheets used for roofing sheets, gutters, rain water pipes and drainage are easier to spot than other types of asbestos, but the only sure way is to have the material analysed in a laboratory.

The other way to spot asbestos is by its position. Common places where it might be found are:

- roof slates and corrugated roofing sheets
- gutters and downpipes

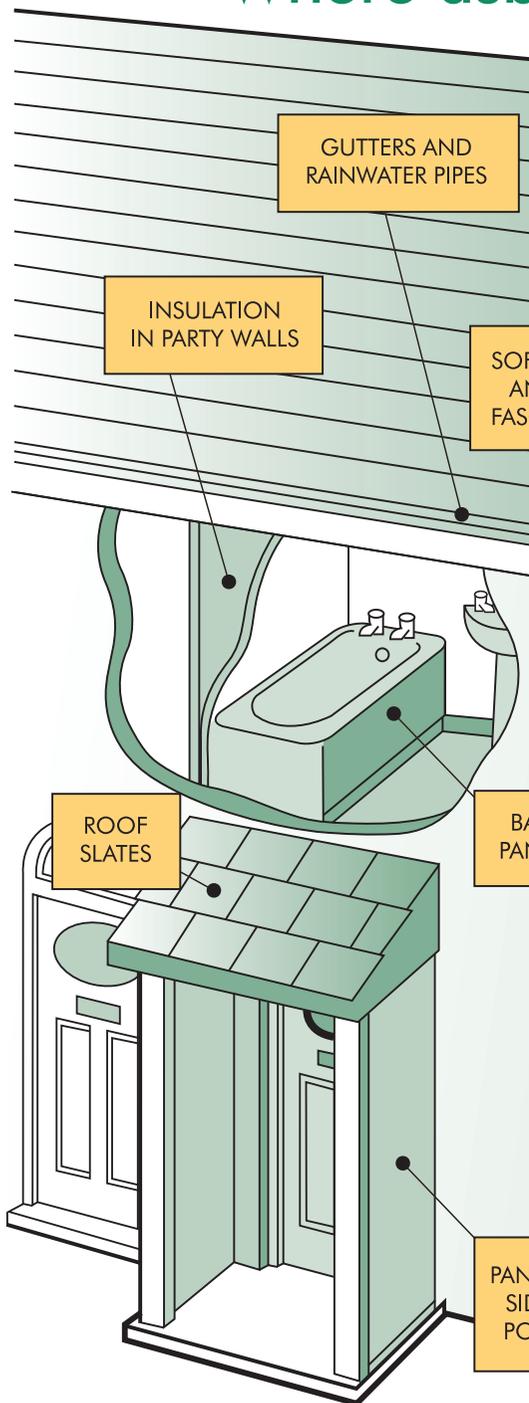
- insulation in party walls
- soffits and fascias
- cold water tanks
- bath panels
- some textured surfaces on walls and ceilings
- ceiling and floor tiles
- flue pipes
- lagging around boilers and heating pipes.

Undertaking DIY safely in your home

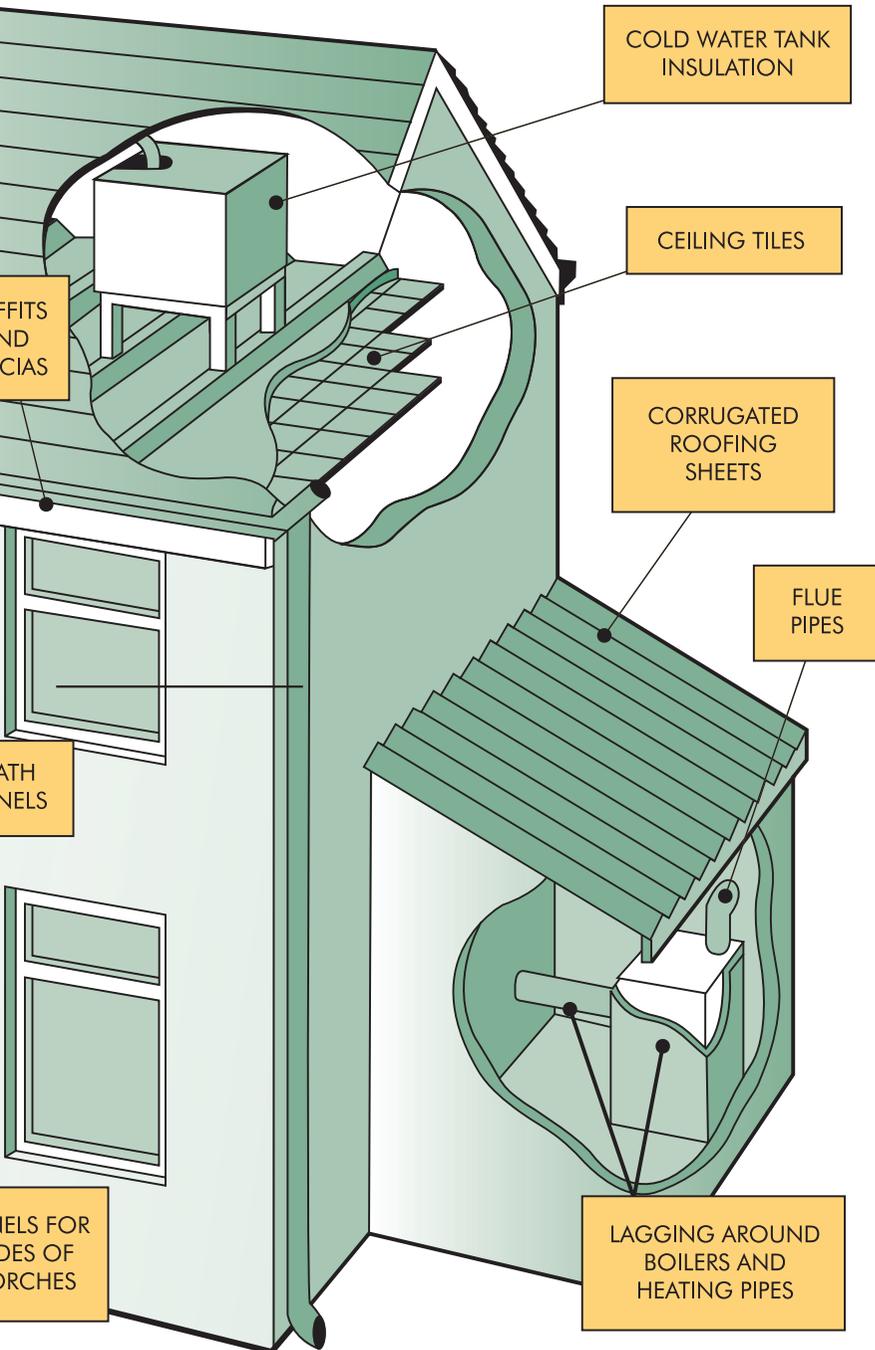
You may have already carried out DIY in your home, such as scraping off wallpaper or drilling walls to hang cupboards or shelves. Most domestic tasks like these do not stir up asbestos fibres.

If you are planning to do any DIY in your home that involves drilling, cutting or sanding materials that you think could be asbestos, please contact us first on 0800 073 3333. We will check that you are not disturbing asbestos.

Where asb



Asbestos can be found in the home



Under your Conditions of Tenancy you **must** inform us of your plans to carry out any DIY work or other work which involves alterations to your home and get our consent **before** any work starts.

Should asbestos be removed from my home?

Normally it is better to leave asbestos where it is, as it is quite safe unless it is disturbed. But if you think you have old, broken or flaking asbestos that needs to be removed contact us on 0800 073 3333.

Asbestos and repairs in your home

From time to time, you may need to have repairs done in your home, or your home may be improved.

All of our contractors have been trained in asbestos awareness, so they know what to look for. They may call in specialist asbestos contractors, who will arrange for samples to be sent to a laboratory to identify if it is

asbestos, and to decide whether to remove it or encapsulate it. If the asbestos needs to be removed, it will be removed safely, following all the correct health and safety laws. The asbestos will only be removed if it is disturbed or damaged and is assessed as being a potential hazard to health.

Remember

- Any asbestos in your home is safe as long as it is not disturbed.
- If you plan to carry out any DIY that involves sanding, drilling or cutting into material that could be asbestos, please contact us first on 0800 073 3333. It is a condition of your tenancy that you must obtain our consent before starting the work.

Frequently asked questions

Parts of my ceiling are flaking. Is this dangerous?

If your ceiling has a textured surface and you can see flaky patches, contact us on 0800 073 3333.

I want to paint my living room; will it be safe to do this?

Yes – as long as you are not sanding or drilling, it is safe to paint or wallpaper your walls.

My daughter wants to pin up posters on the wall in her bedroom with drawing pins. Is this safe?

Yes – you can put drawing pins into walls in your home. This is perfectly safe.

How can I tell if there is asbestos in my home?

You can't tell just by looking for it. That's why you need to check with us if you are planning to do any DIY that could disturb asbestos.

I had improvement work done to my home last year. Should I be worried about asbestos fibres in my home?

No. All of our contractors are asbestos-aware. If there was any need to work with asbestos, they would have called in specialists to do the work safely and legally.

Many people who develop asbestos-related diseases have worked with asbestos building materials over many years.