

## Six steps for reducing your risk



Know where asbestos-containing products could be in your home. If in doubt, get products tested, or for safety's sake, assume it is asbestos.



Maintain asbestos-containing products in good condition, such as through use of paint or other surface finishes, enclosures and capping.



Replace asbestos cement materials if they are damaged or are being temporarily dismantled for any reason. Ensure all friable asbestos is removed only by a licensed asbestos removalist.



Plan ahead to prevent disturbing and releasing asbestos fibres, particularly when renovating or demolishing a structure that might contain asbestos (such as a house, garage or shed).



Get advice from your local government environmental health officer, or state or territory government, on safe handling and disposal of asbestos-containing products, and on the use of appropriate protective equipment.



Engage a licensed asbestos removalist when undertaking major home renovations or demolitions where asbestos may be present. Consider checking their procedures and quality of clean-up. In some states, homeowners also require a licence for removal of asbestos-containing materials.

# Where asbestos may be found in a typical home

**roof cavity**  
– loose fill insulation (not common)

## exterior

– flat, patterned and corrugated wall and roof sheeting, roof guttering, ridge capping, imitation brick cladding and line under eaves.

## bathroom, toilet and laundry

– asbestos cement sheet walls, ceilings and floors, backing to wall tiles

## living areas

– insulation in wood heaters, asbestos cement sheeting in walls, ceilings and beneath wood-heater hearths

## kitchen

– walls, splashbacks, ceilings, in vinyl floor tiles, backing of vinyl sheet flooring, underlay sheeting for ceramic tiles.

## other

– backing of electrical meter boards, old ironing board covers, heatproof mats, brake and clutch linings, some plaster sealants, filters and adhesive products, and hot-water pipe insulation set into masonry walls.  
– low density asbestos fibreboard wall and ceiling panels (especially in high-humidity areas).

## backyard

– fences, garden sheds, garages, outside toilets, carports and dog kennels.  
– buried and dumped waste materials