

# PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) FOR WORKING WITH < 10M<sup>2</sup> OF BONDED ASBESTOS

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**Asbestos is a hazardous substance.**

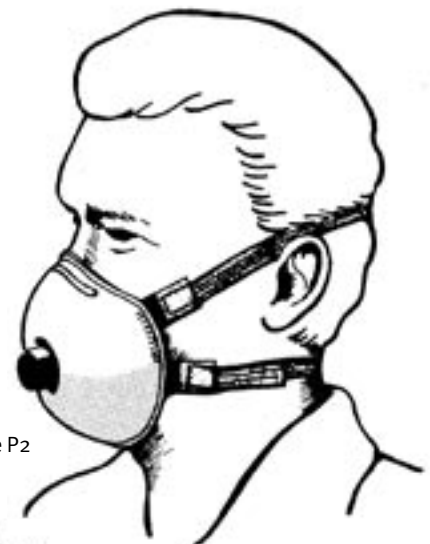
**When you are carrying out work that may involve disturbing and/or removing materials that contain asbestos, it's important to wear protective equipment that prevents you from inhaling asbestos fibres. It's also important that you dispose of the equipment correctly. Where possible, you should use disposable equipment.**

**If you are not qualified or appropriately licensed to carry out asbestos work, engage someone who is.**

**Follow the correct safety procedures and protect yourself from asbestos related disease.**

## BREATHING EQUIPMENT

- As a minimum you should wear an SAA approved P2 face respirator, with two straps.
- Either a disposable or non-disposable half-face dust filter respirator is appropriate for work with asbestos cement sheeting (e.g. low speed drilling and cutting) or removal of bonded asbestos cement products.
- Do not reuse a disposable respirator or filters. They must be disposed of as asbestos waste.
- Filters must be replaced if using non-disposable respirators. The respirator must also be cleaned using damp cloths. Warning: do not reuse or resoak cloths and dispose of as asbestos waste.
- Persons with beards or other facial hair or stubble should be clean shaven to achieve facial seal required for respirators.
- Remember the respirator should be the first thing to go on and the last thing to come off.



Disposable P2



Non-disposable P2

*Source: NOHSC Code of Practice for Safe Removal of Asbestos, 2005*

## COVERALLS

- Use disposable coveralls with fitted hoods and cuffs so that personal clothing does not become contaminated.
- Don't wear personal clothing made from wool or other materials that attract fibrous dusts when you're working with asbestos.
- Fitted hoods should always be worn over the straps of respirators, and loose cuffs should be sealed with tape.
- Don't reuse disposable coveralls. Wrap disposable coveralls in a double layer of plastic and dispose as asbestos waste once the task is completed.



**Asbestos Awareness.**  
Helping everyone breathe easier.

## FOOTWEAR

- Gum boots or laceless steel-capped rubber-soled work boots with disposable boot covers are preferred, as asbestos dust can gather in the laces and eyelets. Alternatively, use old footwear and dispose of as asbestos waste when the job is completed.
- Always decontaminate safety footwear before you leave the asbestos work area for any reason, or seal footwear in double bags for use only on the next asbestos maintenance task.
- Disposable boot covers must be disposed of as asbestos waste.

## PERSONAL DECONTAMINATION CHECKLIST

Never leave the asbestos work area until decontamination is complete. Always leave respirator on during decontamination process.

- Remove any visible asbestos dust/residue from protective clothing using an asbestos vacuum cleaner or wiping down with damp cloths. Warning: do not reuse or resoak damp cloths.
- Place cloths into disposal bag (200-micron ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) thick plastic bags).
- Take disposable coveralls off and place into disposal bags (while still using respirator).
- Use damp cloths to wipe down footwear and place cloths into disposal bag.
- Seal all plastic bags with duct tape and place each into a second plastic bag.
- Seal this second plastic bag and label/mark as "Asbestos waste".
- Use damp rags to wipe external surfaces of the disposal bags to remove any dust before its removed from the work area.
- Place damp cloths into disposable bags, remove your personal protective equipment and double bag, seal with duct tape and mark as "Asbestos Waste".
- Dispose of respirator in double bag, seal with duct tape and mark as "Asbestos Waste".
- Dispose of asbestos waste at the appropriate waste facility (Mugga Lane or Mitchell).

**For more information, see the asbestos website ([www.asbestos.act.gov.au](http://www.asbestos.act.gov.au)) or contact 13 22 81.**



# DRILLING OF ASBESTOS CEMENT SHEETING

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

**Asbestos is a hazardous substance.**

**Where possible, plan your work to avoid disturbing the material. Alternatively arrange for the material to be removed safely by a qualified person.**

**Drilling of material containing asbestos can release asbestos fibres into the air. Follow the correct safety procedures and protect yourself from asbestos related disease.**

## EQUIPMENT

- Non-powered hand drill is preferred or low-speed battery-powered drill or drilling equipment fitted with a local exhaust ventilation (LEV) dust control hood.
- Disposable cleaning rags.
- Bucket of water and/or a misting spray bottle.
- Duct tape.
- Sealant, e.g. PVA paint.
- Thickened substance (e.g. wallpaper paste, shaving cream or hair gel).
- 200 micron ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) thick plastic bags.
- 200  $\mu\text{m}$  plastic sheeting as drop sheets.
- Warning signs and/or barrier tape.
- Industrial asbestos vacuum cleaner with HEPA filter.
- A sturdy paper, foam or thin metal cup, or similar (for work on overhead surfaces only).
- PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT – see separate fact sheet.

## PREPARE THE WORK AREA

- If the work is to be carried out at a height, take appropriate precautions to prevent risk of falls.
- Avoid working in windy environments.
- Restrict entry to the asbestos work areas (e.g. close door and/or use warning signs and/or barrier tape at all entry points).
- Use plastic sheeting secured with duct tape to cover any surface of the work area.
- If a LEV dust control hood cannot be attached and other dust control methods, such as pastes and gels are unsuitable, then a second person must operate an asbestos vacuum cleaner as close as possible to the source of released asbestos fibres while the drill is being used.

**WARNING:** Do not reuse or resoak used rags in the bucket of water.



**Asbestos Awareness.**  
Helping everyone breathe easier.

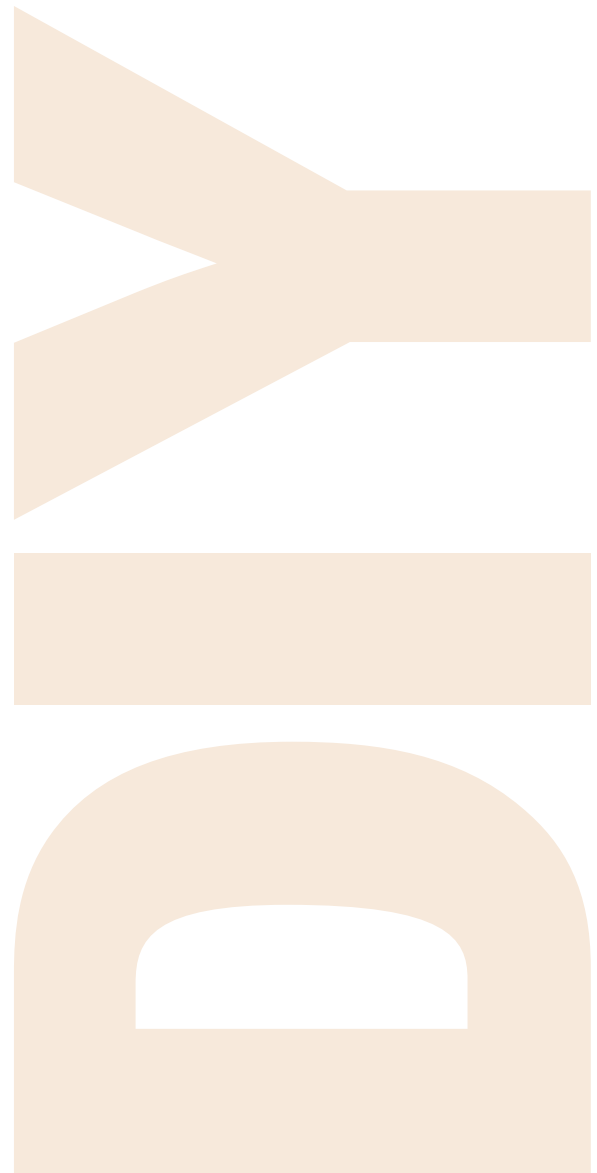
DRILLING VERTICAL SURFACES	DRILLING OVERHEAD HORIZONTAL SURFACES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tape the point to be drilled and the exit point.</li> <li>• Cover the drill entry and exit points (if accessible) on the asbestos sheet with a generous amount of thickened substance.</li> <li>• Drill through the paste.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mark point to be drilled.</li> <li>• Drill a hole through the bottom of a plastic/paper cup.</li> <li>• Fill or line the inside of the cup with thickened substance .</li> <li>• Put the drill bit through the hole in the cup and make sure the drill bit extends beyond the lip of the cup.</li> <li>• Align the drill bit with the marked point.</li> <li>• Ensure cup is firmly held against surface to be drilled.</li> <li>• Drill through the surface.</li> <li>• Remove the drill bit from the cup, ensuring that the cup remains firmly against the surface.</li> <li>• Remove the cup from the surface.</li> </ul>

## CLEANING UP

- Use damp rags to clean off the paste and debris from the wall and drill bit.
- Seal the cut edges with sealant.
- Carefully roll or fold plastic sheeting from floor, so any collected dust or debris do not spill.
- If necessary, use damp rags and/or an asbestos vacuum cleaner to clean any remaining visibly contaminated sections of the work area.
- Place debris, used rags, plastic sheeting and other waste in disposal bags.
- Seal all disposal bags with duct tape and place each into a second plastic bag.
- Seal second plastic bag and label/mark as "Asbestos waste".
- Use damp cloths to wipe external surfaces of the disposal bags to remove any dust before it's removed from the work area.
- Place damp cloths into disposable bags, remove your personal protective equipment and double bag, seal with duct tape and mark as "Asbestos Waste".
- Dispose of asbestos waste at the appropriate waste facility (Mugga Lane or Mitchell).
- If a cable is to be passed through, insert a sleeve to protect the inner edge of the hole.

**For more information, see the asbestos website ([www.asbestos.act.gov.au](http://www.asbestos.act.gov.au)) or contact 13 22 81.**

*This fact sheet has been adapted from the 2005 NOHSC Code of Practice for the Management and Control of Asbestos in Workplaces.*



# SAFE REMOVAL OF CERAMIC TILES FROM ASBESTOS CEMENT SHEETING

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Asbestos is a hazardous substance.

When you are removing ceramic tiles from areas such as bathrooms, you need to avoid disturbing the backing sheet (wall lining) as it may contain asbestos. If you're not sure whether it does contain asbestos, either get an assessment or be on the safe side and presume it does.

If the backing sheet is damaged or broken before or during the removal of the tiles, arrange for the material to be removed by a Licensed Asbestos Removalist and replace it with an alternative wall lining. This applies if tiles cannot be removed without damaging the backing sheet due to strong and deep adhesion qualities of the adhesive used.

Follow the correct safety procedures and protect yourself from asbestos related disease.

## EQUIPMENT

- Thick plastic sheet, at least 0.2mm thick.
- Duct tape.
- Spray bottle filled with detergent water.
- Wide scraper.
- Wide chisel.
- Disposable cleaning rags.
- Bucket of water.
- Strong, thick (at least 0.2 mm) plastic bags for collection of debris.
- PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT – see separate fact sheet.

## PREPARE THE WORK AREA

- Remove all loose items from the affected room.
- Close door and restrict entry.
- Use plastic sheeting, secured with duct tape, to cover floor surface within work area.

WARNING: Do not reuse or resoak used rags in the bucket of water.

## REMOVING WALL TILES

- Use the chisel to gently tap between the top of the tile and the backing sheet to release the tile. Do not dig the chisel into the backing sheet.
- As the tile is released, spray detergent water lightly behind the tile to prevent release of fibres.

- Try to prevent the tile from falling onto the plastic.
- Place tiles in disposal bags (only fill the bag half full).

## CLEANING THE RESIDUE

- Remove tile adhesive and grout residue from backing sheet to achieve a relatively flat and clean surface before laying new tiles.
- Use a damp detergent water cloth to gently wipe down the wall.
- Whilst keeping the surface being worked on damp with the detergent spray, use the scraper to gently remove all residues. Do not dig into the surface of the sheet.
- With the sheet now clean and level, wipe down with a damp detergent-water cloth.
- Place used cloths in disposal bag.

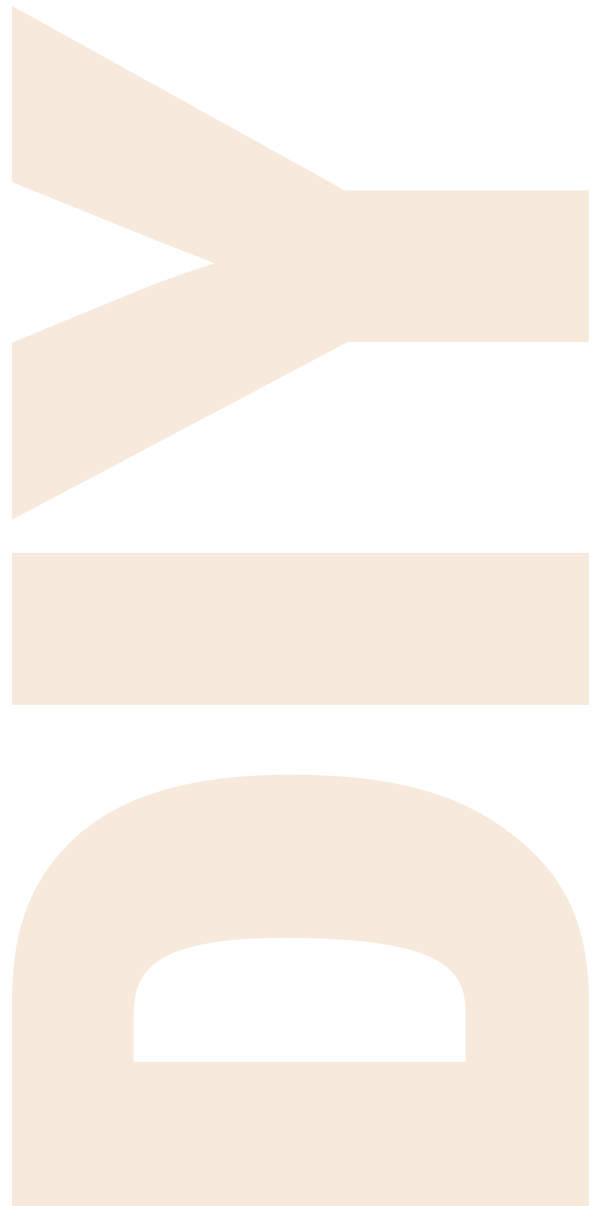


**Asbestos Awareness.**  
Helping everyone breathe easier.

## CLEANING UP

- ☑ Remove larger scrap from ground plastic sheet and place in disposal bag.
- ☑ Carefully roll or fold plastic sheeting from floor, so any collected dust or debris do not spill.
- ☑ If necessary, use damp rags and/or an asbestos vacuum cleaner to clean any remaining visibly contaminated sections of the work area.
- ☑ Place used rags, plastic sheeting and other waste in disposal bags.
- ☑ Seal all plastic bags with duct tape and place each into a second plastic bag.
- ☑ Seal this second plastic bag and label/mark as “Asbestos waste”.
- ☑ Use damp rags to wipe external surfaces of the disposal bags to remove any dust before its removed from the work area.
- ☑ Place damp rags into disposable bag, remove your personal protective equipment and double bag, seal with duct tape and mark as “Asbestos Waste”.
- ☑ Dispose of asbestos waste at the appropriate waste facility (Mugga Lane or Mitchell).

**For more information, see the asbestos website ([www.asbestos.act.gov.au](http://www.asbestos.act.gov.au)) or contact 13 22 81.**



# SEALING, PAINTING, COATING AND CLEANING OF ASBESTOS CEMENT SHEETING

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

**Asbestos is a hazardous substance.**

**Where possible, plan your work to avoid disturbing the material.**

**Painting, coating and cleaning should only be carried out on asbestos cement products that are in good condition. If the sheeting is weathered, damaged or broken, arrange for removal of the sheeting by a qualified person.**

**Under no circumstances should asbestos cement products be water blasted or dry sanded in preparation for painting, coating or sealing.**

**Follow the correct safety procedures and protect yourself from asbestos related disease.**

## EQUIPMENT

(In addition to any paint, paint brushes, paint rollers or airless spray gun/equipment etc)

- Sealant.
- Duct tape.
- 200-micron ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) thick plastic bags.
- 200-micron thick ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) plastic sheeting as drop sheets.
- Disposable cleaning rags.
- Bucket of water, or more as appropriate.
- Misting spray bottle.
- Warning signs and/or barrier tape.
- PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT – see separate fact sheet.

NOTE: Where paint is to be applied, appropriate respiratory protection to control the paint vapours/ mist should be worn.

## PREPARE THE WORK AREA

- If the work is to be carried out at a height, take appropriate precautions to prevent risk of falls.
- Segregate the asbestos work area(s) to restrict entry (e.g. close door and/or use warning signs and/or barrier tape at all entry points).
- If possible, use plastic sheeting, secured with duct tape, to cover floor of the work area. This will help to contain any runoff from wet sanding methods.

WARNING: Do not reuse or resoak used rags in the bucket of water.



**Asbestos Awareness.**  
Helping everyone breathe easier.

## PREPARE THE SURFACE

DOs	DON'Ts
Wipe dusty surfaces with a damp cloth.	High-pressure water cleaning.
Light wet sanding methods.	Dry sanding.
Paint stripper and a scraper – only on wet surface and care must be taken not to damage asbestos cement sheeting.	Dry broom or paint scraper on uncoated ac sheeting.

## PAINTING AND SEALING

- When using a spray brush, never use a high-pressure spray to apply the paint.
- When using a roller, use it lightly to avoid abrasion or other damage.

## CLEANING UP

- Use damp rags to clean the equipment.
- Carefully roll or fold plastic sheeting from floor, so any collected dust or debris do not spill.
- If necessary, use damp rags and/or an asbestos vacuum cleaner to clean any remaining visibly contaminated sections of work area.
- Place debris, used rags, plastic sheeting and other waste in disposal bags.
- Seal all disposal bags with duct tape and place each into a second plastic bag.
- Seal second bag and label/mark as "Asbestos waste".
- Use damp rags to wipe external surfaces of the disposal bags to remove any dust before it's removed from the work area.
- Place damp cloths into disposable bag, remove your personal protective equipment and double bag, seal with duct tape and mark as "Asbestos Waste".
- Dispose of asbestos waste at the appropriate waste facility (Mugga Lane or Mitchell).

**For more information, see the asbestos website ([www.asbestos.act.gov.au](http://www.asbestos.act.gov.au)) or contact 13 22 81.**

