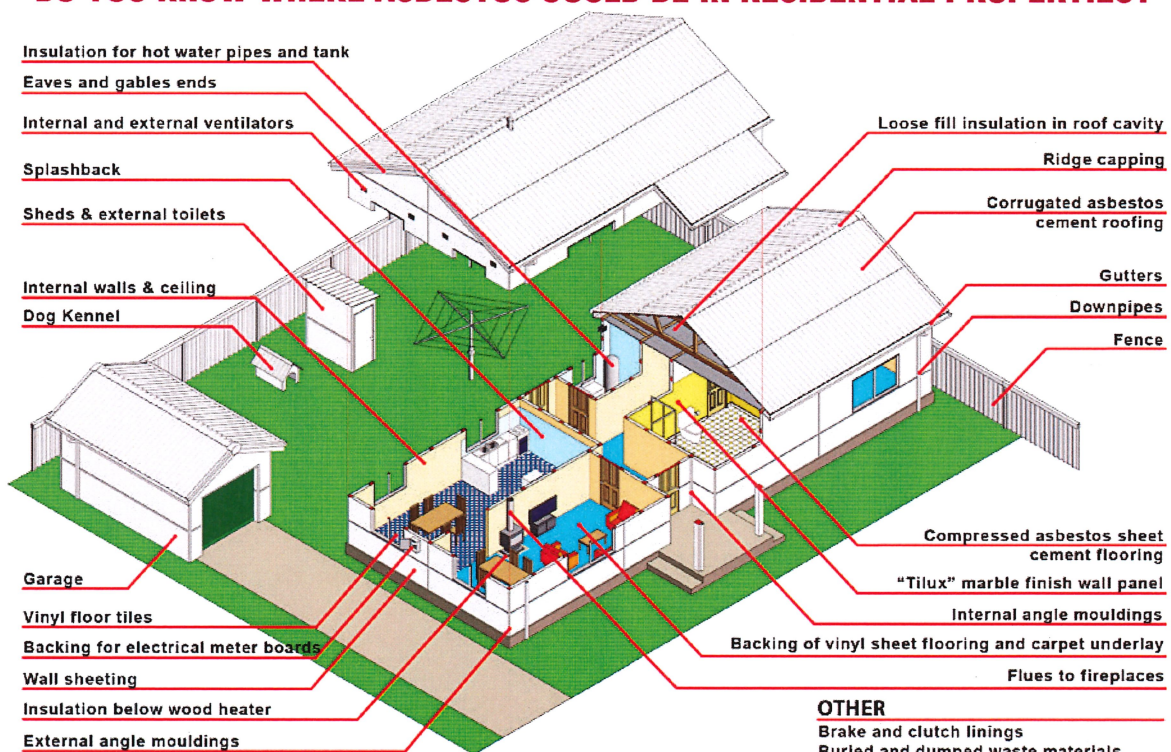




1 IN 3 AUSTRALIAN HOMES CONTAIN ASBESTOS!

DO YOU KNOW WHERE ASBESTOS COULD BE IN RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES?



STEPS FOR DECONTAMINATION

HOW TO SAFELY DOUBLE BAG AND SEAL ASBESTOS WASTE AND PPE

1. Carefully place asbestos materials in the 200um plastic bags or wrap using rolls of 200um plastic (drop sheets), seal using duct tape and label **'DANGER ASBESTOS WASTE'**.
2. Plastic bags containing asbestos should NOT be more than half full to prevent breaking and must be double bagged.
3. Tightly twist the bag opening and fold over to form a 'goose neck'.
4. Secure with heavy duty duct tape or similar to seal.
5. Place each sealed bag inside a second plastic bag labelled **'DANGER ASBESTOS WASTE'** and seal as you did the first bag with duct tape. This is called 'double bagging'.
6. If using rolls of 200um plastic, carefully wrap items and seal edges of plastic with duct tape. Repeat the process to double wrap materials.
7. Whether using bags or rolls of 200um plastic, all materials must be double wrapped or double bagged, sealed with duct tape and labelled **'DANGER ASBESTOS WASTE'**.

IMPORTANT

ALL MATERIALS MUST BE 'DOUBLE BAGGED' USING 200UM PLASTIC BAGS OR 'DOUBLE WRAPPED' USING 200UM PLASTIC ROLLS, SEALED WITH DUCT TAPE AND LABELLED 'DANGER ASBESTOS WASTE' BEFORE BEING REMOVED FROM THE WORK AREA FOR APPROPRIATE DISPOSAL.

YOU MUST CONTINUE TO WEAR YOUR PPE THROUGHOUT THIS PROCESS.

REMOVE YOUR MASK LAST!

DECONTAMINATING THE WORK AREA

1. Carefully wrap plastic drop sheets and double bag or wrap.
2. Use wet wipes or wet disposable cloths to wipe away any dust from surfaces or tools.
 - Wet wipes/cloths should be used **ONCE ONLY**.
 - Wet wipes/cloths should be used flat (not wadded).
 - If using cloths, use the bucket of water to wet cloths before use.
 - Never rinse cloths in water and reuse.
 - After use, wet wipes or cloths must be double bagged or double wrapped and seal with duct tape.
3. Carefully wet wipe surfaces and all hand tools or equipment including the bucket. If tools aren't able to be decontaminated they should be discarded as 'ASBESTOS WASTE' or double bagged for later use but **ONLY** when wearing PPE.
4. Wet wipe the outside of bags before removing bags from the work area.

PERSONAL DECONTAMINATION

1. Remove any visible asbestos dust from protective clothing by wet wiping with clean, wet wipes/cloths and place a 200um plastic bag.
2. Carefully remove shoe covers, gloves and coveralls and place in a 200um plastic bag.
3. Use wet wipes/cloths to wipe down footwear then place cloths in a plastic bag.
4. Wipe down the outside of all bags with wet wipes/cloths and place in a plastic bag.
5. Remove mask last and place in a 200um plastic bag and seal using the double bag method.
6. Remove old clothing and double bag as you did the other disposable items.
7. Seal all plastic bags using duct tape and the double bag method.
8. Wash hands, nails, face and head thoroughly with soapy water.
9. Shower and wash hair to complete personal decontamination.

IMPORTANT

WHEN DECONTAMINATING YOURSELF, ALL ITEMS MUST BE DOUBLE BAGGED, SEALED WITH DUCT TAPE AND DISPOSED OF AS ASBESTOS WASTE AS PER THE ABOVE.

SAFE DISPOSAL OF ASBESTOS WASTE - Whatever you do, DON'T dump it!

- It is **IMPORTANT** that ALL PPE and materials used when removing or repairing asbestos are disposed of as ASBESTOS WASTE.
- Not all waste centres accept asbestos waste. Check with Council for your nearest authorised asbestos waste disposal centre.

Department of Health – Cyclone Seroja Storm damage – April 2021

Asbestos on my property – what should I do

You may have damaged asbestos on your property. This will mostly be broken pieces of asbestos sheeting (fences, walls, eaves). The asbestos in these broken sheets will still be 'bonded'. That is, the fibres will be held together in the cement matrix so they won't be easily released. **Therefore, they present a very low risk for exposure unless you start to break them further.**

The authorities are organising specialised asbestos removalists for asbestos clean-up, so you don't have to touch it. However, if you want to clean-up and remove the bonded asbestos sheets and fragments on your property you can do this if you follow the precautions below. **If the asbestos can be easily broken when you touch you need to leave it alone. This means it is becoming friable and will require specialist removalists.**

Reasonable measures for cleaning bonded asbestos sheets and fragments:

1. Make sure you are wearing adequate personal protective clothing. This includes;
 - a. P2 or N95 mask
 - b. Disposable coveralls – if available or old clothes that can be disposed later
 - c. Gloves
 - d. Disposable shoe covers – if available or hard cover shoes that can be cleaned
2. Do not break or crush the asbestos when you are moving it.
3. Carefully place the asbestos material in 200um plastic bags (heavy duty) or wrap using rolls of 200um plastic.
4. If you are placing the asbestos in plastic bags they should NOT be more than half full. Tightly twist the bag opening and fold over to form a goose neck and secure with heavy duty duct. Finally place that bag inside another one (double bag), seal and label 'DANGER ASBESTOS WASTE'
5. If you are using rolls of black plastic make sure you only wrap the equivalent of a single fence sheet for each wrapping. Double wrap, seal with duct tape and label 'DANGER ASBESTOS WASTE'
6. Leave the wrapped asbestos at the front of your property and it will be collected