

WHAT

are the legal requirements for waste disposal?

- Make sure you know all waste disposal requirements before you start working.
- **Asbestos waste is a hazardous material** and must therefore be transported to an approved waste disposal site. If permitted, you can do this yourself, otherwise you must use an asbestos waste disposal contractor



WHAT

may happen if you don't follow the good practice in this leaflet?

- You may **cause serious harm to your own health** and to that of your family or friends, and cause damage to the environment.
- Legal consequences! Private persons must likewise comply with the applicable laws, provisions and measures vis-à-vis third parties and regarding the environment. Otherwise legal proceedings may be initiated.
- It is always safer to **entrust an expert company** with the work on asbestos-containing materials



The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Commission

MORE INFORMATION:

On the website of the European Commission:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=148>

On the website of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work:

<http://osha.europa.eu>



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ABOUT

TO RENOVATE YOUR HOUSE?



STOP

ASBESTOS FIBRES MAY KILL YOU



WHERE

are you likely to come across asbestos?

- **Asbestos was widely used in homes, cars** and other domestic and leisure locations, mainly to provide protection against fire or heat. It was also used as a binding material in a range of other products.
- You may come across asbestos during building renovation or maintenance work, or while repairing cars, boats or caravans. Asbestos-cement panels on roofs and facades, windowsills and gutters/downpipes.
- Indoors asbestos might be contained in floor and ceiling coverings, insulation boards, inner windowsills, burner gaskets.
- In cars, brake pads contained asbestos, as did gaskets, and in boats and caravans, asbestos was used in similar locations to houses.



HOW

do you know if the materials you'll be working on contain asbestos

- White, brown or blue fibrous material, but **difficult to recognise** from its outward appearance, particularly when painted or covered!
- The use of asbestos has been progressively banned in Europe since the mid 1980s. Older building parts and products might still contain asbestos.
- **The materials have to be analysed by a laboratory** to be sure.

WHY

is asbestos an issue?

- **Asbestos fibres threaten your health!**
- When inhaled, the fine dust generated while working can cause **asbestosis**, a disease of the lungs which causes severe breathlessness; it can also cause **lung cancer**, and **mesothelioma**, a **fatal cancer of the lining of the lung**.
- **Smoking significantly increases the risks of disease from asbestos exposure.**



WHAT

to keep in mind when working with asbestos?

- Keep dust release at a minimum!
- **Keep materials wet at all times!**
- If you need to saw or break material, use a sharp handsaw!
- Do not use power tools!
- Put all components and small parts removed into special plastic sacks, seal tightly with adhesive tape and label as asbestos. Slates and other objects should be handled carefully so that they do not break!

HOW

to protect yourself?

- Protect against the inhalation of airborne fibres with respirators, **particulate filter P2 or P3**.
- Wear protective overalls and do not leave the work place with these overalls.
- Contaminated protective equipment must be disposed of together with asbestos waste