RENOVATE LEAD-SAFE

Protect yourself and your family from lead exposure by being aware of potential hazards during home renovation projects.



building*

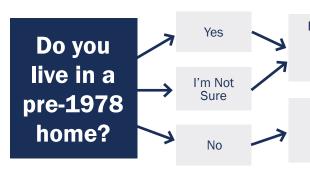
If your home was built before 1978, a home renovation project can easily create dangerous lead dust. This is one of the most common ways children are exposed to lead. Even low levels of lead in children's blood have been shown to affect a child's intellect, concentration, and academic achievement.

EPA encourages anyone pursuing renovations in a pre-1978 home to use a lead-safe certified contractor. However, if you plan to do-it-yourself (DIY), there are simple, important steps you should take to keep yourself and others safe during and after the renovation.

*U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes. (2021, October). American Healthy Homes Survey II Lead Findings.

Considering a home renovation project?

This chart can help you stay lead-safe while you renovate:



Either assume lead-based paint is present or hire a certified lead inspector to check for lead-based paint.

Home renovation projects are unlikely to create hazardous lead dust.

You should consider hiring a lead-safe certified contractor to do the work.

Find one at:

www.epa.gov/lead/findacontractor

I'm going to do the work myself and keep my family safe by following the steps to lead-safe work below.

Steps to Lead-Safe Work

Set Up Safely

- ✓ Keep dust in and family members and other nonworkers out.
- ✓ Carefully tape off your work area and use plastic sheeting to cover objects you can't remove.

Protect Yourself

Avoid inhaling or ingesting lead dust, and wear protective clothing like disposable coveralls, shoe covers and an N-100 certified respirator mask to avoid carrying lead dust out of the work area.

Minimize Dust

✓ Use the right
equipment to
minimize dust
while you work.
Plastic sheeting,
masking tape,
heavy-duty plastic
bags, and a
misting bottle will
help you collect
and dispose of
all dust.

Leave the Work Area Clean

- ✓ Clean up your
 work area
 as you go by
 vacuuming with
 a HEPA vacuum
 cleaner
 frequently and
 cleaning your tools
 daily.
- ✓ Leave your work area clean at the end of each day.

Control Your Waste

- ✓ Bag and seal waste from DIY renovation projects.
- ✓ Most waste generated during these activities should be taken to a licensed solid waste landfill.

Clean One More Time

- ✓ After completing your DIY project and before letting people back in the work area, clean all surfaces with damp disposable cloths.
- ✓ Consider having the area tested for lead dust hazards by a certified firm.



This document presents an overview of lead-safe work practices. For detailed information about lead-safe work practices, please visit epa.gov/lead/rrp-divers.