

## Asbestos training is a legal requirement

If you work on buildings built or refurbished before the year 2000, asbestos could be present. You will need awareness training so you know how to avoid the risks.

If you plan to disturb asbestos, eg. by drilling a hole in textured coating or removing an asbestos ceiling tile then, as well as awareness training, you will need job-specific, non-licensed asbestos training.

This will give you the skills to:

- Use and fit a face-mask
- Use safe work methods
- Deal with asbestos waste
- Safely carry out non-licensed tasks – such as painting undamaged asbestos insulation board, cleaning light fittings attached to asbestos insulating board and cleaning guttering on an asbestos cement roof.

Visit [www.ukata.org.uk](http://www.ukata.org.uk) or call 01246 824437  
Other organisations also offer training.

HSE Infoline: 0845 345 0055  
[www.hse.gov.uk/hiddenkiller](http://www.hse.gov.uk/hiddenkiller)

\*Calls to 0845 numbers can be charged at up to 5p per minute from a BT landline. Call charges from other phones or mobiles may vary.  
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## Caution hidden killer



## Each week approximately 20 tradesmen die from this hidden killer

Asbestos is a hidden killer. And it could be hidden in any building built or refurbished before the year 2000... including the one you're working in right now. Inside this pack you will find information on reducing the risks of asbestos plus a sticker for your toolbox.

Each week  
approximately  
8 joiners, 6 electricians  
and 4 plumbers die from  
asbestos-related  
diseases.

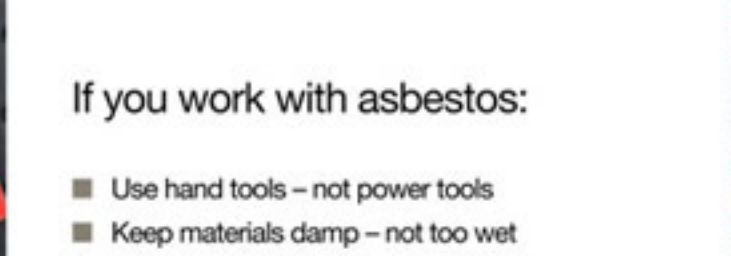
Thousands of tradesmen are unknowingly working with asbestos. Are you one of them?

Avoid working with asbestos if you can. If you are not sure if there are asbestos materials where you are working, **stop and check**. People in charge of workplace buildings have a legal duty to provide you with up-to-date information on the location and condition of asbestos before you start work.

**Call**  
0845 345 0055  
or visit  
[www.hse.gov.uk/hiddenkiller](http://www.hse.gov.uk/hiddenkiller)  
for more  
information.



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## Common hiding places for asbestos:

1. Ceiling tiles
2. Pipe insulation
3. Boilers
4. Sprayed coatings
5. Asbestos cement sheeting
6. Board around windows, radiators, fireplaces, building columns and pillars
7. Soffit boards
8. Textured coatings
9. Inside fire doors
10. Gaskets and sealants on pipe joints
11. Fuse boxes and electrical switchgear

## Don't start work if:

- You are not sure if there is asbestos where you are working
- The asbestos materials are sprayed coatings, board or insulation and lagging on pipes and boilers – only licensed contractors should work on these
- You have not been trained to do non-licensed work with asbestos. Basic awareness training is not enough

## You should only continue to work if:

- The work has been properly planned and the right precautions are in place (eg. you have the right equipment)
- The materials are asbestos cement, textured coatings and certain other materials which do not need a licence (listed in *Asbestos Essentials*)
- You have had training in asbestos work and know how to work with it safely

Each year approximately 4000 die from asbestos. That's more than are killed on the roads!

## If you work with asbestos:

- Use hand tools – not power tools
- Keep materials damp – not too wet
- Wear a properly fitted, suitable mask (eg. disposable FFP3 type). An ordinary dust mask will not be effective
- Don't smoke, eat or drink in the work area
- Double-bag asbestos waste and label the bags properly
- Clean up as you go – use a special (Class H) vacuum cleaner, not a brush
- After work, wipe down your overalls with a damp rag or wear disposable overalls (Type 5)
- Always remove overalls before removing your mask
- Don't take overalls home to wash
- Wear boots without laces or disposable boot covers
- Put disposable clothing items in asbestos waste bags and dispose of them properly
- Don't carry asbestos into your car or home

*Asbestos Essentials* task sheets will show you how to do a range of non-licensed tasks safely. They are free to download at [www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/essentials](http://www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/essentials)