

Asbestos

What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a naturally occurring fibrous material and has been used for about 150 years on a large scale. If you inhale asbestos fibres they can damage your health. **Important: Generally, asbestos is only a risk if you disturb or damage it and cause fibres to be released into the air.**

Where do I find it?

Asbestos was extensively used as a building material in the UK from the 1950s through to the mid-1990s. It was used for a variety of purposes and was ideal for fireproofing and insulation. Any building built before 2000 can contain asbestos. Below are few common examples of where it can be found. For further information <http://www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/gallery.htm>.



Am I at risk?

Asbestos materials in good condition are safe unless asbestos fibres become airborne, which happens when materials are damaged. So unless the material is damaged or you intend to do DIY that will damage it the answer is no. It is safe to decorate paint; wallpaper it is only where the work would damage the material such as drilling holes that you would need to check with responsive repairs to ensure there is no asbestos.

What do I do if I suspect asbestos in bad condition?

Contact responsive repairs 01727 819256.

Where can I find out more information about asbestos?

You can request a leaflet from the **Council on 01727 819256**

Or the HSE on 0845 345 0055

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/index.htm>