

a18

asbestos essentials

Non-licensed tasks

Essential information

Important: You must read sheet a0 *Introduction to asbestos essentials*

Also read the following sheets:

em0 Risk assessments and plans of work

em1 What to do if you discover or accidentally disturb asbestos during your work

em2 Information, instruction and training

em4 Using a Class H vacuum cleaner for asbestos

em6 Personal protective equipment (including RPE)

em7 Using damp rags to clean surfaces of minor asbestos contamination

em8 Personal decontamination

em9 Disposal of asbestos waste

Removing asbestos friction linings

What this sheet covers

This sheet describes good practice when you need to remove a friction lining containing asbestos (eg brake assembly, clutch housing) or when the housing needs cleaning.

Preparing the work area

- Restrict access – minimise the number of people present.
- Use tape and notices to warn others.
- Ensure adequate lighting.

Equipment

- 500-gauge polythene sheeting and duct tape
- Warning tape and notices
- Class H vacuum cleaner (BS 8520) (if available – see sheet em4)
- Scraper
- Bucket of water and rags
- Asbestos waste bag
- Clear polythene bag

Personal protective equipment (PPE) - see sheet em6

- Provide:
 - disposable overalls fitted with a hood;
 - boots without laces (laced boots are hard to decontaminate);
 - respiratory protective equipment (RPE).



Procedure

- Protect nearby surfaces from contamination. Cover with 500-gauge polythene sheeting and fix with duct tape to non-asbestos surfaces.

Caution

Never use a brush or compressed air for cleaning.

Other hazards

There may be other hazards – you need to consider them all.



Disc brake on a vehicle

Removal

- Partially open the housing and vacuum the inside.
- Open the housing carefully. Use damp rags to clean inside.
- Put the worn friction lining and dirty rags in the waste bag.
- Scrape off any residues using 'shadow vacuuming' – see sheet em4.

Cleaning and disposal

- Clean the equipment and the area with Class H vacuum (if available) and/or damp rags.
- Put debris, used rags, polythene sheeting and other waste in the asbestos waste bag and tape it closed.
- Put the asbestos waste bag in a clear polythene bag and tape it closed.
- Disposal – see sheet em9.

Personal decontamination

See sheet em8.

Clearance and checking off

- Visually inspect the area to make sure that it has been cleaned properly.
- Clearance air sampling is not normally required.
- Get the premises owner, dutyholder or client to check off the job.

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