

a8

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

em7 Using damp rags to clean surfaces of minor asbestos contamination

em8 Personal decontamination

em9 Disposal of asbestos waste

Enclosing undamaged asbestos materials to prevent impact damage

What this sheet covers

This sheet describes good practice when you need to protect asbestos materials from impact damage, and you do not want to remove them. Examples include:

- asbestos insulating board (AIB) wall panels that could be damaged by trolleys;
- lagged pipework running along the bottom of a wall that could be scuffed.

For minor repairs on AIB see sheet a6. For minor repairs on asbestos cement see sheet a13.

This sheet is *not* appropriate where the asbestos material is badly damaged or where you disturb the asbestos. Use an HSE-licensed contractor for such work.

Preparing the work area

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

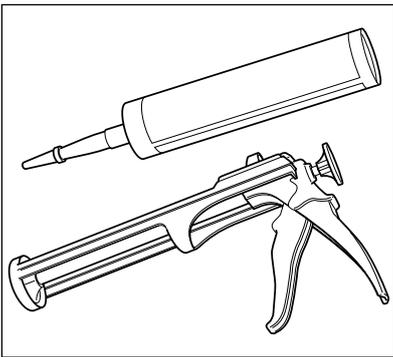
Equipment

- Warning tape and notices
- Liquid impact adhesive
- Screwdriver
- Nails or screws
- Hammer
- Non-asbestos board – this may need to meet an original specification, eg fire resistant
- Bucket of water and rags
- Asbestos waste bag
- Clear polythene bag

Other hazards

Work at height – see www.hse.gov.uk/work-at-height. Take precautions to avoid falls.

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



If you have to attach panels to asbestos-containing materials, use impact adhesive



Use non-asbestos boarding to protect asbestos

Personal protective equipment (PPE)

- Provide:
 - disposable overalls fitted with a hood;
 - boots without laces (laced boots are hard to decontaminate).
- A respirator is not normally required.

**Procedure**

- Box-in pipework without disturbing the asbestos.
- Where possible, fix replacement panels to non-asbestos materials – you can use nails or screws.
- Use adhesive to attach replacement panels to asbestos-containing materials.
- Seal the cavity and provide adequate fire barriers.
- Warn the building owner about the presence of asbestos-containing material you have enclosed so it can be managed properly.

Cleaning and disposal

- Clean the equipment and the area with damp rags.
- Put debris, used rags 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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