

a32

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

em5 Wetting asbestos materials

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

Replacing an asbestos-containing part in a 'period' domestic appliance

What this sheet covers

This sheet describes good practice when you need to remove an asbestos-containing replaceable part in a domestic appliance.

This is most likely if the appliance is a 'heritage' or 'period' piece, eg cooker, washing machine, dryer, dishwasher, freezer, radiator, oil stove etc.

You must use a Gas Safe-registered engineer to disconnect and make safe gas appliances.

Preparing the work area

- Have a competent electrician to isolate the appliance from the electricity supply.
- You must have a Gas Safe-registered engineer to disconnect and make safe gas appliances
- Can you do the job outdoors?
- Restrict access – minimise the number of people present.
- Close doors. 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) – see sheet em4
- Screwdriver and spanners
- Scraper
- Non-asbestos replacement part
- Garden-type sprayer containing wetting agent, eg diluted washing-up liquid
- Bucket of water and rags
- Asbestos waste bag
- Clear polythene bag

Other hazards

Electrical hazards – see www.hse.gov.uk/electricity. Get a competent electrician to isolate and reconnect electricity supply.

Slips and trips – see www.hse.gov.uk/slips. Floors protected with polythene become very slippery when wet.

Gas safety – check your contractor’s registration at www.gassaferegister.co.uk/.

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

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.
- Protect vulnerable components with polythene sheeting.

Removal

- Vacuum inside the appliance. Vacuuming should remove all loose material or articles.
- Unscrew or unbolt fixed parts using shadow vacuuming – see sheet em4. Put the fixings in the asbestos waste bag.
- Once accessible, dampen the asbestos. Continue dampening as it is exposed.
- Ease the asbestos away, into the asbestos waste bag.
- Gently scrape off residues using ‘shadow vacuuming’ – see sheet em4.
- Clean using damp rags and fit the replacement part.



Clean up with damp rags and the Class H vacuum cleaner. Double-bag used rags, polythene sheeting and other waste

Cleaning and disposal

- Clean the appliance, the area and equipment with the Class H vacuum cleaner and damp rags.
- Put 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.

For information about health and safety, or to report inconsistencies or inaccuracies in this guidance, visit www.hse.gov.uk/. You can view HSE guidance online and order priced publications from the website. HSE priced publications are also available from bookshops.

This guidance is issued by the Health and Safety Executive. Following the guidance is not compulsory, unless specifically stated, and you are free to take other action. But if you do follow the guidance you will normally be doing enough to comply with the law. Health and safety inspectors seek to secure compliance with the law and may refer to this guidance.

This document is available at: www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/essentials/

© *Crown copyright* If you wish to reuse this information visit www.hse.gov.uk/copyright.htm for details. First published as part of *Asbestos essentials task manual* 2001.