

# Asbestos: a guide for tenants

This leaflet explains what asbestos is, the risks it presents, where it is found and what to do if you have concerns.

## What is asbestos?

**Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral made up of many fibres. It was a popular building material between 1930 and 1999.**

It's a good insulator and has fire and heat-resistant properties, which is why it was popular.

However, asbestos was later found to be a health risk. It was therefore banned from use as a building material and strict regulations were introduced.

### Is asbestos dangerous?

Asbestos is unlikely to be a danger to your health as long as it's undamaged and hasn't been disturbed. It is only a risk to health if fibres are released into the air as they can be harmful when breathed in.

### How do I tell if it's in my home?

It is hard to tell the difference between materials that contain asbestos and many modern products that don't. See the diagram on the next page for areas it might have been used.

### Do's and don'ts

- ✓ Leave asbestos materials where they are if they are in good condition and cannot be easily damaged.
- ✗ Don't work with, damage or remove materials you think might contain asbestos.
- ✗ Don't rub down or sand anything you think might contain asbestos (for example, artex).
- ✗ Don't drill through material containing asbestos.
- ✗ Don't break off pieces from materials you know or think may contain asbestos.
- ✓ Always contact us before starting any DIY and we'll tell you if and where there is asbestos in your home.

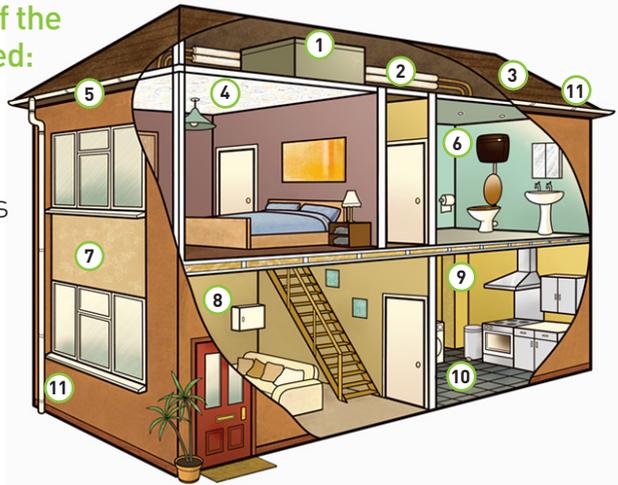
## Where is asbestos found?

Some of our properties will have some asbestos-containing materials. Here are some of the places it may have been used:

1. Cold water pipes
2. Pipe lagging
3. Roof felt, sheets and tiles
4. Textured coatings (such as artex)
5. Fascia and soffit boards
6. Toilet cisterns
7. Wall panels
8. Fuseboards
9. Boiler/heater cupboard
10. Floor tiles
11. Rainwater guttering and downpipes

### Other uses include:

- Garage roof sheets
- Panels behind heaters or fires
- Fire doors
- Partition walls
- Service ducts, soil and vent pipes



Even if you do have asbestos in your home, as long as it is in good condition and not damaged or disturbed, there is no risk to your health.

**If you think you have damaged asbestos in your home, contact our Customer Services Team immediately.**

# Contact Victory

Call us any time on

**0330 123 1860\***

**Email:** [info@victoryhousing.co.uk](mailto:info@victoryhousing.co.uk)

**Visit:** [www.victoryhousing.co.uk](http://www.victoryhousing.co.uk)

**Twitter:** @VictoryHousing

**Write to:** Victory Housing Trust, Tom Moore House,  
Cromer Road, North Walsham NR28 0NB

**Visit us at:** Tom Moore House, Monday to Friday  
between 8:30am and 5pm



\*We record all phone calls that we make and receive, for quality and training purposes.

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