

Asbestos in the Home Awareness & Safety



Crown
Simmons 

What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a natural material that was used extensively in construction between the 1950s and 1980s before it was banned in 1999. Most properties built before the 90s are likely to contain some form of asbestos.



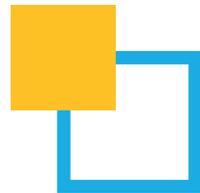
When might asbestos be a problem?

Asbestos becomes dangerous if it is disturbed or damaged, through activities such as cutting, drilling and sanding, as this releases asbestos fibres into the air. When these fibres are inhaled, they can cause harm that may only become apparent after many years.



Where might you find asbestos?

Asbestos is often found in boarding, cement products, insulation material, textured ceiling decoration, roof coverings and vinyl flooring. Materials must be professionally tested to find if they contain asbestos - you cannot tell if a material contains asbestos just by looking at it as many modern materials look similar.



What precautions can I take?

Never handle any suspect material or try to dispose of it yourself. Licensed and experienced contractors will be appointed to remove and dispose of materials at an approved waste disposal site.

If you are planning to do any home improvements, or you suspect that a material that contains asbestos has been damaged contact Crown Simmons immediately. We can check to see if we already have any information about the material, or we can arrange to have a sample taken and tested to find if it contains asbestos.

Do...

- Obtain permission from Crown Simmons Housing before you undertake any DIY (you should not carry out any alterations or improvements to your home, other than cleaning or basic decorating)
- Take every precaution to avoid damaging building materials containing asbestos
- Soak wallpaper before removing it, and if possible use a steam stripper, and gently peel away the paper before decorating
- **Remember: Asbestos can be hazardous to health if handled incorrectly, but don't worry, we can offer you advice and guidance where needed**

Don't...

- Saw, sand or drill holes in any material that contains asbestos
- Try and remove old floor tiles, linoleum or the glue affixing them
- Dust, sweep or vacuum debris that you think may contain asbestos
- Try to remove textured coating from ceilings

Crown Simmons Housing Policy

Crown Simmons are committed to ensuring the health, safety and welfare of all our residents, visitors, contractors and staff by identifying asbestos materials on our premises and managing the risks they may pose. While there may be asbestos products in your home, they present very low risk if maintained in good condition and are not damaged. If materials are in poor condition they will be repaired or removed.

A record of all asbestos information is retained on our Asbestos Database and that forms an integral part of our management plan.

As part of our continued commitment, we will gather information through surveys, inspections and testing, to determine the presence of asbestos. Materials known to contain asbestos will be labeled with appropriate warning stickers or a red hazard dot label for every-day areas of the home.

Find more information on Asbestos here:
www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/

How to contact Crown Simmons Housing

e-mail enquiries@crownsimmons.org.uk

telephone 01372 461440 **text** 07507 507 441

web crownsimmons.org.uk **repairs** 01372 619519

gas & heating (BSW) 0800 012 6991