

Some but not all products with asbestos have been discontinued. Those that remain in the home still can pose hazards if they are damaged in remodeling or repair. Below is a list of those items.

Lamp Sockets – Good as a non-conductor of electricity, asbestos was used in electrical equipment such as lamp sockets. Under normal use it is not a hazard.

Ceiling Insulation – Homes built or remodeled between 1945 and 1978 may contain a crumbly asbestos material either sprayed on or troweled on ceiling or walls. In 1973, the EPA banned the spraying of asbestos materials for insulation, fire protection and soundproofing.

Floors – Manufacturers used asbestos to add strength to vinyl floors and linoleum. Although most now do not use it, fibers can be released when tiles are sanded or damaged.

Gloves – Fire resistant, asbestos cloth was used in some protective mitts, table pads and ironing board covers as late as the mid-1970's. Discard them.

Wood-Burning Stoves – Asbestos-containing sheets and millboard were used as insulation. Door gaskets may contain asbestos. If they do, they should be replaced with fiberglass gaskets. Don't trim asbestos-insulation boards with a saw. Score and then pop the boards to size.

Textured Paint – Some textured paint sold before 1978 contained asbestos, but probably is not added to paint today. If damaged, it is best left alone. Avoid sanding or cutting the surface.

Roof Shingles and Siding – Some roofing and siding shingles were made with cement that contained asbestos. Outdoors, they are believed to pose little risk, but fibers can be released if the siding is worn or damaged during repairs or by acid rain.

Insulation - walls of homes built between 1920 and 1950 may have asbestos insulation. Home improvements or repairs could disturb the asbestos.

Boilers - Many older homes have boilers wrapped in asbestos. Homeowners should not remove the insulation, rather hire professionals or remove the boilers intact.

Dryers - Parts of dryers often contain asbestos. Use is declining.

Pipe Wrapping - Steam pipes in many older homes may be covered with insulation or paper tape containing asbestos. Repair with duct tape or special rewettable cloth. Do not strip insulation or cut pipe. Remove entire length of pipe.

Water Heaters – Asbestos was used in insulation around some water heaters. Homeowners should not strip the material but should discard the entire unit or hire professionals.

Furnaces – Fans, including door gaskets and duct connectors, may contain asbestos insulation, paper or cement. Modifications for fuel changes can damage the old insulation.

Grout – Asbestos was mixed with adhesive. No hazard in normal use.

Dishwashers – Some parts may contain asbestos. Consumer Products Safety Commission doubts health risk

Ashes – Artificial ashes and embers made of asbestos were banned in 1977.

Slow Cookers – Slow cookers parts contained asbestos. Use is declining.

Ovens – Ovens and dishwashers built into cabinets were often wrapped in asbestos insulation blankets until the mid-1970's. Care should be taken during remodeling and professionals hired to remove the insulation.

Toasters – Parts in small kitchen appliances contained asbestos. Use is declining.

Freezer Insulation – Parts contained asbestos. Use is declining. Experts believe asbestos will not be released into the air.