



Asbestos

Fact not fiction

DANGER
ASBESTOS



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ASBESTOS

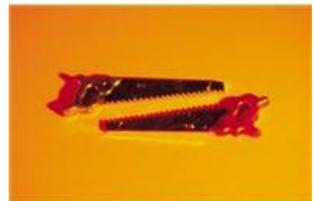


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United Communities, like other landlords, is required to manage the asbestos containing materials in its properties. We are committed to minimising any risk to the health of our residents, their visitors, our staff and our contractors from asbestos in our properties.

Asbestos in your home

- As long as it is in good condition and is not being, or going to be disturbed or damaged, there is no risk.
- If it is disturbed or damaged in such a way that asbestos fibres are released into the air where people can breathe them in, it can become a danger to health.
- Anyone who uses your home and disturbs asbestos that has deteriorated or been damaged and is releasing fibres, may be at risk.
- Anyone who drills, sands down, saws or cuts into asbestos containing materials could potentially be at risk.
- New construction materials do not contain asbestos but many are similar in appearance to the older materials which do.



What is asbestos?

- Asbestos is a naturally occurring fibrous mineral.
- Asbestos has been used in the construction industry for many years for its fire retardant qualities, its resistance to acid attack, as electrical insulation, in textiles and as a binder in textured coatings, paints and cement products.
- There are three main types of asbestos still found in buildings. These are commonly called 'blue asbestos' (crocidolite), 'brown asbestos' (amosite) and 'white asbestos' (chrysotile). All of them are dangerous, but blue and brown asbestos are more hazardous than white. You cannot identify them by their colour!
- In 1999 asbestos was banned in all its forms, due to possible risks posed to health.
- Although it is now illegal to use asbestos in the construction or refurbishment of premises, many thousands of tonnes of it were used in the past and much of it is still in place.
- Asbestos is present, in some form, in the majority of Britain's housing.

Contact us

If you are in doubt about asbestos in your home, please contact us

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If you would like this leaflet in a large print or a different format, or translated into a different language, please contact us.