

Quick Check for Lead Safety in Pre-1978 Structure

Before the work begins

- √ For pre-1978 structures, presume that the paint is lead-based unless testing proves otherwise; it is recommended that testing be done by a State-Certified professional.
- √ Contain the work area by covering interior and exterior exposed areas with plastic sheeting; secure with duct tape.
- √ Turn off forced-air heating and air conditioning systems.

During work on lead-based painted surfaces

- √ Keep all non-workers outside the work area.
- √ Wear protective clothing and shoes while doing the work.
- √ Use properly fitted respirator equipped with HEPA filters.
- √ Water-mist the work area as you scrape to reduce dust; collect all chips and dust on plastic sheeting.
- √ Be cautious when using paint strippers since they contain toxic chemicals.
- √ Do not eat, drink, or smoke in the work area.
- √ Do not dry-sand, blast, or power-wash to remove lead-based paint.
- √ Do not use high temperature heat guns or open flames on lead-based paint.

After work is completed

- √ Remove plastic sheeting used to protect surfaces by rolling or folding inward.
- √ Dispose of construction debris in a heavy-duty plastic bag and tightly secure.
- √ Wash exposed areas with a general household cleaner diluted in a bucket of water; use wet sponge or wet cloth to remove all dust; dispose of waste water to sewer.
- √ Vacuum carpeted areas with a HEPA vacuum cleaner.
- √ Change clothes and shoes before leaving the work area, and machine wash separately.
- √ Shower and wash your hair after finishing work.
- √ Consider hiring a State-Certified professional to test the area for lead dust contamination after the final cleanup.

For additional information on lead safe remodeling in the Sacramento area call: Environmental Management Dept. at (916) 875-8484, the National Lead Hotline at (800) 424-LEAD, or go to <https://www.epa.gov/lead>