

Lead-Based Paint

In 1978, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission banned the use of lead-based paint in housing. Heavily-lead-painted was used in most homes before the 1950s. In 1991, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) determined that lead poisoning is the “number one environmental threat to the health of children in the United States.” HUD created the Lead Hazard Control Program in 1993 which has significantly reduced the cases of childhood lead poisoning in the United States.

Treating Lead-Based Paint

Your house may have lead-based paint if it was built prior 1978. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has determined three methods to handle lead-based paint: component removal and replacement, paint removal, and covering the affected surfaces. Ingestion of lead-based paint dust particles poses the most threat for lead poisoning. To remove lead-based paint from your home, please contact a Certified Renovation and Lead Dust Professional. If you would like to cover old paint that may contain lead, please take extra precaution and/or contact a professional. For more information on safe practices for lead-paint remediation, please visit:

www.epa.gov OR www.hud.gov



Quick Facts

- Exposure to lead-based paint can be harmful to children and adults
- Three-quarters of the homes built before 1978 contain some lead-based paint
- Test your home and family for lead if you think a potential hazard exists
- Temporary measures to reduce lead exposure range from following specified cleaning techniques to good nutrition
- If a painted surface is not peeling or cracking, you can spray the surface with a sealant
- Do-It-Yourself Lead-Based Paint Test Kits can be found at home centers, paint stores, and ceramic supply outlets



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