

Information for Tenants

Leaflet No. 20
(Issue Feb 2015)

This leaflet gives you some basic information about asbestos and where you might find it. It also provides guidance on DIY and making alterations where you suspect asbestos is present.

What is Asbestos

If you are not satisfied with the service provided by Arcon, you should
Asbestos is a naturally occurring material. It was extensively used as a building material from the 1950s through to the 1980s. This was due to its many useful properties, including resistance to heat and fire. It has also been used in household products such as ironing boards and oven gloves.

Many people have concerns about asbestos. However, if left undisturbed asbestos poses no real threats. Most people are exposed to low amounts of fibres present in the atmosphere with no ill effects.

However, care should be taken to prevent the release of fibres as they can cause serious damage to your health. Asbestos fibres and dust are potentially dangerous if inhaled in high concentrations over a long period of time, when they can cause lung disease.

The symptoms of these diseases often do not appear for 20 to 30 years.

Where can Asbestos be commonly found?

Asbestos can be found in a wide range of homes. Below listed are the most common locations where you may possibly find asbestos and in particular, if your home was built or refurbished between 1950 and 1980.

Please note that asbestos may be found in other areas not included in this list.

Outdoors

Eaves and soffits, rain water pipes and guttering, roof tiles, central heating flues, garage and shed roofs, garage and shed walls and in corrugated cement.

Indoors

Decorative coatings on ceilings and walls (Artex), linings for walls, ceilings and duct panels, Insulation in some electrical heaters, bath panels, floor tiles and adhesive, cementation products (boarding) around fireplaces

What to do if you suspect Asbestos is in your home

It is very hard to identify asbestos and can only be done in a laboratory. As a general rule if you leave asbestos alone and undamaged it does not present a risk.

If you wish to decorate and you suspect asbestos may be present in your home please contact the maintenance department on 0161 214 4120.

We can check our asbestos register, where we record all homes where we know asbestos is present. It may be necessary for us to carry out a survey and take samples to analyse for your safety.

Asbestos



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H O U S I N G
■ ASSOCIATION ■

To make any alterations you must, as stated in your Tenancy Agreement, seek written permission from our Maintenance Department. You can do this by writing to: Arcon Housing Association, Maintenance Department 12 Lloyd Street, Manchester. M2 5ND. On receipt of your letter we will assess the work you wish to do and check our asbestos register.

Precautions when carrying out DIY

Do not carry out DIY unless you are 100% certain that asbestos does not exist. We can let you know prior to you commencing with any improvements.

Should you require further information or need advice we are here to help.

Disposing of Asbestos waste

To dispose of Asbestos waste properly you need to make sure you appoint a licensed contractor. This should ONLY be done by a company licensed to do so.

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