



- wear a mask
- never dry sand
- use plastic sheeting



RENOVATING?

You need to know about the dangers of lead.

Lead exposure causes early death in adults and IQ loss in children.

- There are many other health effects (See “[Lead Alert: The Six-Step Guide to Painting your home.](#)” Available here, free.)
- Australian houses built before 1992 can have up to 1% lead in the paint (16 times the recommended US limit). Those built before 1970 can have even more (up to 84%).
- If you're unsure about the paint, test for lead before you decide whether to strip or prepare old paint for painting over.
- Never dry sand or grind leaded paint.
- Use a colour change instant lead test kit for paint. Buy one here. Or buy a lab analysis test kit for paint, soil or dust from The LEAD Group (www.lead.org.au).
- Wet, non-dispersive methods and using low temperature heat-guns are lead-safe with the right protective gear. You can buy one here.
- Use plastic sheeting on the floor (available here). Never use cloth drop-sheets.
- Test for lead in soil and dust wipes before moving young children or pets back in.
- If you've just dry-sanded or heat-gunned old paint, ask the doctor today for blood lead tests for the family.

Help is a phonecall away: 1800 803 772

Community Information Unit, Federal Environment Department

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