

Please cut this portion and keep it handy as a quick reference card.

For Lead Hazards Inside Your Home

1. Move furniture to block your child from paint that is chipping and peeling. Block any painted areas on which your child might bite, chew, or suck.
2. Move your child's play area or bedroom to a room that has no chipping or peeling paint.
3. Cover windowsills with contact paper.
4. Keep windows closed that have peeling or flaking paint.
5. Tell babysitters about lead hazards in your home.
6. Wash and dry your child's hands often, especially before meals.
7. Do not dry sweep paint chips with a broom or brush. Use a tack cloth.
8. Use tacky tape to remove loose, flaking paint, if only a small area is flaking (less than one square foot).
9. Repair small holes in walls or doors with spackle or caulking. Use a drop cloth on the floor.
10. Attach felt pads to drawers and cabinets that have lead paint to reduce impact damage.

For Lead Hazards Outside Your Home

1. Place doormats on the inside and outside of the main entrance to your home so that you don't track lead-contaminated soil into the house.
2. Take shoes off before entering the house.
3. Don't let your child play in bare soil areas.
4. Wash your child's toys before allowing your child to play with them.
5. Keep your pet on a leash and out of bare soil. Your pet can become lead poisoned and can track lead dust into your home.

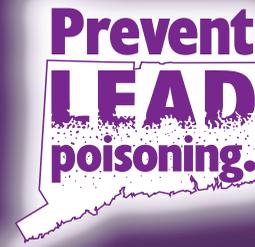


Facts About Lead-Based Paint and Lead Dust

- ▲ Use of lead paint in homes was banned in 1978. Homes built prior to 1978 may contain lead paint. Older homes, built prior to 1950, are very likely to contain lead paint.
- ▲ Lead dust is produced from lead paint. As the paint gets older, it may be damaged by moisture or friction if it is disturbed.
- ▲ Lead dust is very fine; it can't be seen.
- ▲ Lead dust is the most common source of lead poisoning for everyone, especially children and pets. Children between the ages of one and two are at the greatest risk for being poisoned.
- ▲ Lead poisoning usually occurs when children put dust that has lead in it in their mouths. Children also eat chips of lead paint. The lead may come from household lead paint and dust or from bare soil in the yard.
- ▲ Your local health department will try to find where the lead paint and lead hazards are found in your home. With this information they can determine whether the lead hazards should be abated (removed) or managed in place.

Renters: What Your Landlord will do Before Abatement or Management Begins

1. Your landlord is responsible for taking care of peeling and chipping paint and other lead hazards in and around your home.
2. Your landlord must give you information about lead poisoning and how it affects your child's health.
3. Once lead paint hazards are found by a health inspector, your landlord will post signs at the entrance of the building to warn other people living there.
4. Your landlord must tell you where the lead paint was found in your home.
5. Your landlord must fix any water leaks that can cause more paint damage.
6. Your landlord will work with the local health department to abate or manage the lead paint hazards to make the home safe for your child and family.



Connecticut Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control Program
State of Connecticut Department of Public Health

To learn more about lead poisoning and the Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control Program, call the Connecticut Department of Public Health at:

860-509-7299

or visit our web site at:
www.dph.state.ct.us/brs/lead/lead_program.htm
or your local health department

or, contact one of the two Regional Lead Treatment Centers:

Hartford Regional Lead Treatment Center
860-714-4792

Yale-New Haven Regional Lead Treatment Center
203-764-9106



National Lead Information Clearinghouse 800-424-LEAD

Reducing Lead Hazards in the Home:

A Guide for Parents and Homeowners



Take these actions to help prevent your child from becoming lead poisoned:

First, take interim controls.

There are some simple steps you can take to protect your child. These short-term, low-cost actions are called **interim controls** - they are not permanent but they will protect your child for a short period of time. **Abatement, or management of lead hazards in your home MUST occur. Your landlord or hired professionals will do this work.**

*** You should not disturb any lead paint! Removing or disturbing lead paint without proper equipment and precautions can make matters worse and cause your child to become lead poisoned.*

Before You Begin Cleaning

- ▲ Pregnant women must not clean up lead dust. Lead dust can harm the developing fetus.
- ▲ Remove children and pets from the rooms being cleaned.
- ▲ Read the cleaning product directions and warning label.
- ▲ Wear old clothes and plastic gloves.

Tools for Cleaning Lead Dust

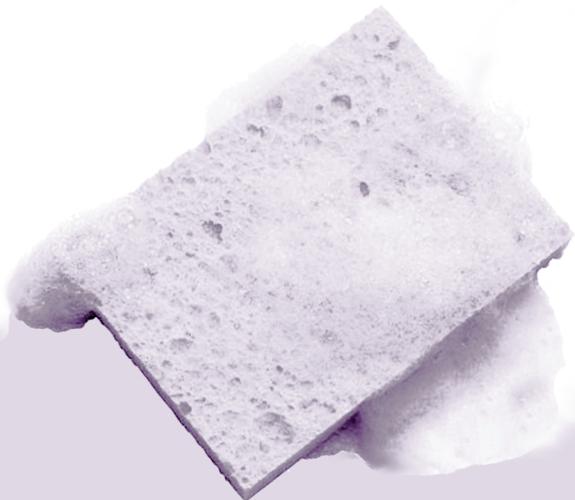
- ▲ Plastic or rubber gloves, like those used for washing dishes.
- ▲ Plastic trash bags.
- ▲ A mop that can be washed or thrown away.
- ▲ A tack cloth.
- ▲ Three (3) plastic buckets.
- ▲ A spray bottle.
- ▲ Lint-free rags or sponges that can be thrown away.
- ▲ A cleaning product. You can use a general purpose cleaner, or products made for cleaning lead dust.
- ▲ Industrial vacuum with a HEPA filter, known as a HEPA vacuum.

Cleaning Surfaces

- ▲ When removing large paint chips, wear plastic gloves. Place them into a trash bag. A tack cloth may be helpful.
- ▲ Remove smaller paint chips by vacuuming with a HEPA vacuum. You can also mist the chips with water, then sweep them up and put them into a trash bag.
- ▲ Prepare 3 buckets. The first will have the cleaning mixture in it. The second will have plain water. The third will be empty so you can squeeze dirty water from the rag or sponge into it after you wipe down surfaces.
- ▲ Clean one room at a time. Clean the highest surfaces first and work your way to the floor. Always start at the farthest corner of the room and work your way to the door.

Cleaning Carpets and Rugs

- ▲ To remove carpets for cleaning or to throw them away: Mist the rugs with water. Roll up the carpet and carpet pad, and wrap them in plastic. If you are leaving the carpet pad in place, clean the pad like wall-to-wall carpeting.
- ▲ To clean wall-to-wall carpets: Vacuum the rug using an industrial HEPA vacuum with the "bar beater" or "agitator" attachment.



Vacuum the rug slowly from top to bottom and then left to right. Rugs can then be steam cleaned. Use a small amount of detergent that has 5% phosphate in it or one that is made for cleaning lead dust.

- ▲ To clean area rugs: Vacuum the top of the rug with the "beater bar" or "agitator" and the HEPA vacuum as described above. Next, fold the rug in half and vacuum the back of the rug and floor normally. Do the same to the other half of the rug. Slowly vacuum the top of the rug again using the "bar beater" or "agitator" attachments.
- ▲ To clean scatter rugs: Wash scatter rugs in a washing machine. Do not put in any clothes. Use a general detergent or one that is made for cleaning lead dust.

Step-by-Step Summary of Wet Cleaning

- Step 1:** Wet a clean rag or mop with the cleaning solution. Squeeze out excess water.
- Step 2:** Wipe the surface with the damp rag or mop.
- Step 3:** Rinse the used rag or mop in the bucket with the plain water.
- Step 4:** Squeeze extra water out of the rag or mop into the empty bucket.
- Step 5:** Repeat Steps 1 to 4 until the surfaces have been completely cleaned in one room.
- Step 6:** Empty and rinse all buckets and fill one with new, clean water. Wipe down all of the cleaned surfaces, using a clean rag and the plain water. Squeeze out extra water into one of the empty buckets.
- Step 7:** Make a new bucket of cleaning solution. Get a clean rag or mop. Move to the next room and repeat Steps 1 to 6.

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Tips for Keeping Children Safe from Lead

- ▲ Wet mop and clean at least once a week.
- ▲ Vacuum with a HEPA vacuum.
- ▲ Check for peeling, chipping, and flaking paint.
- ▲ Before remodeling your home, have it inspected for lead paint by a certified lead inspector.
- ▲ Have your child tested for lead poisoning at ages 1 and 2 and up to age 6.
- ▲ Wash your child's hands and toys often.
- ▲ Give your child 3 healthy meals and at least 2 healthy snacks every day.
- ▲ If anyone in the home has a job or hobby that may involve lead, ask that person to change his or her clothes and take a shower before coming home.



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

Keeping Connecticut Healthy

www.dph.state.ct.us



Call the National Lead Information Clearinghouse: 800-424-LEAD