

Subject: Asbestos

Tool Box Talk No.: 067

Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral and because of its excellent fire retarding and insulating properties it was widely used in the building industry until the mid 1980's.

Research has shown that breathing in asbestos fibres causes lung disease and in 2008, it was the greatest single cause of work-related deaths in the UK according to the UK's Health and Safety Executive.

The use of asbestos was banned in the UK in 2000 but if existing asbestos materials are in good condition, they can be left where they are as long as their condition is regularly checked to ensure they do not become damaged.

The three main types of asbestos that have been used commercially are

Chrysotile (white) Amosite (brown) Crocidolite (blue)

Although commonly known by their colours, in practice, asbestos cannot be identified by colour alone as its appearance can change, depending upon how they have been manufactured or treated.

Before we begin any work we will have checked with our main contractors that there is no asbestos present or, if it is, controls are in place to ensure it is adequately controlled and will not be disturbed by our work methods. This should be sufficient to reduce the risk of exposure for our staff however it is still important that you know where asbestos can be found and the type of materials that may contain it.

This information has been provided below and in the Asbestos Awareness Information sheet in the safety booklet / manual) and also outlined below. You should read this and familiarise yourself with the common areas where asbestos may be found.

If you are unsure if a material is asbestos or not ALWAYS assume that it is.

If there is asbestos where you work then before you begin work:

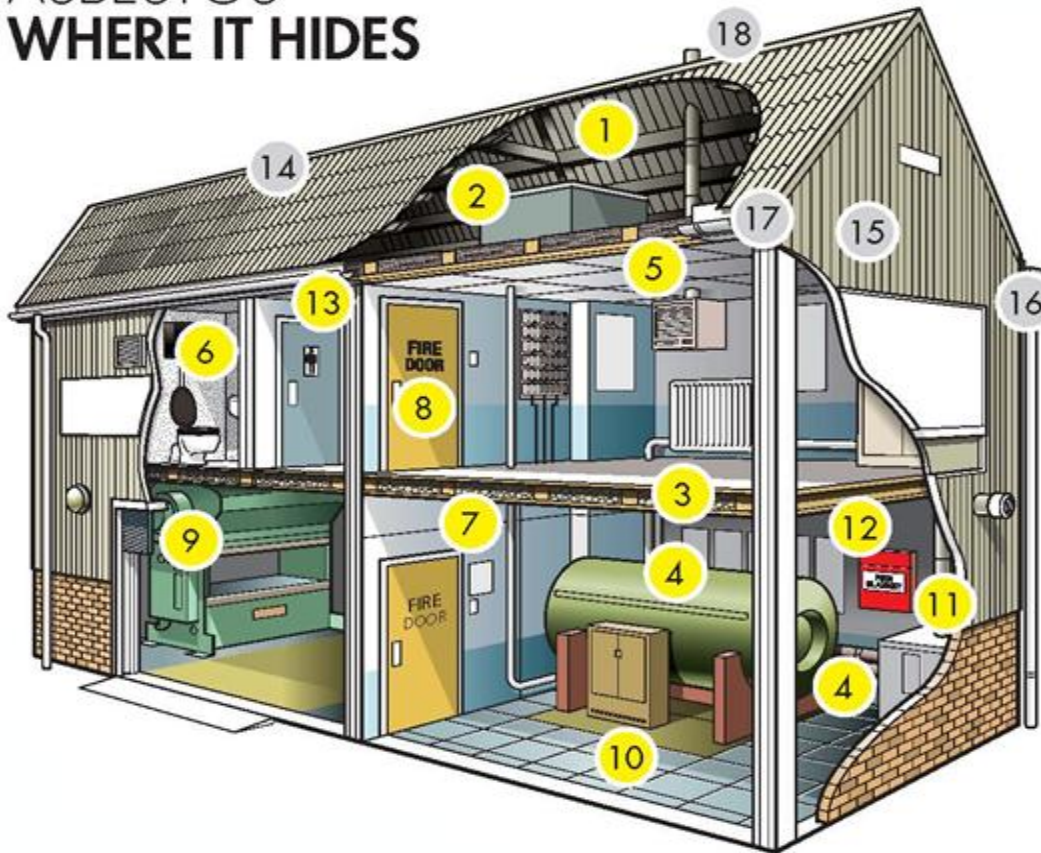
- Know where that asbestos is.
- Check your work sites written record of the location of asbestos (the asbestos register), if available.
- Follow all health and safety instructions.
- If you see any damage to asbestos, report it to your supervisor immediately.

Where might you find asbestos in a building?

- Roof and walls.
- Boilers and pipe work.
- Ceilings. • Interior walls/panels.
- Flooring materials.
- Ventilation systems.
- Domestic appliances.
- Old fire blankets.
- Water tanks.

See sketches below for more detail

ASBESTOS WHERE IT HIDES



Inside Industrial Properties

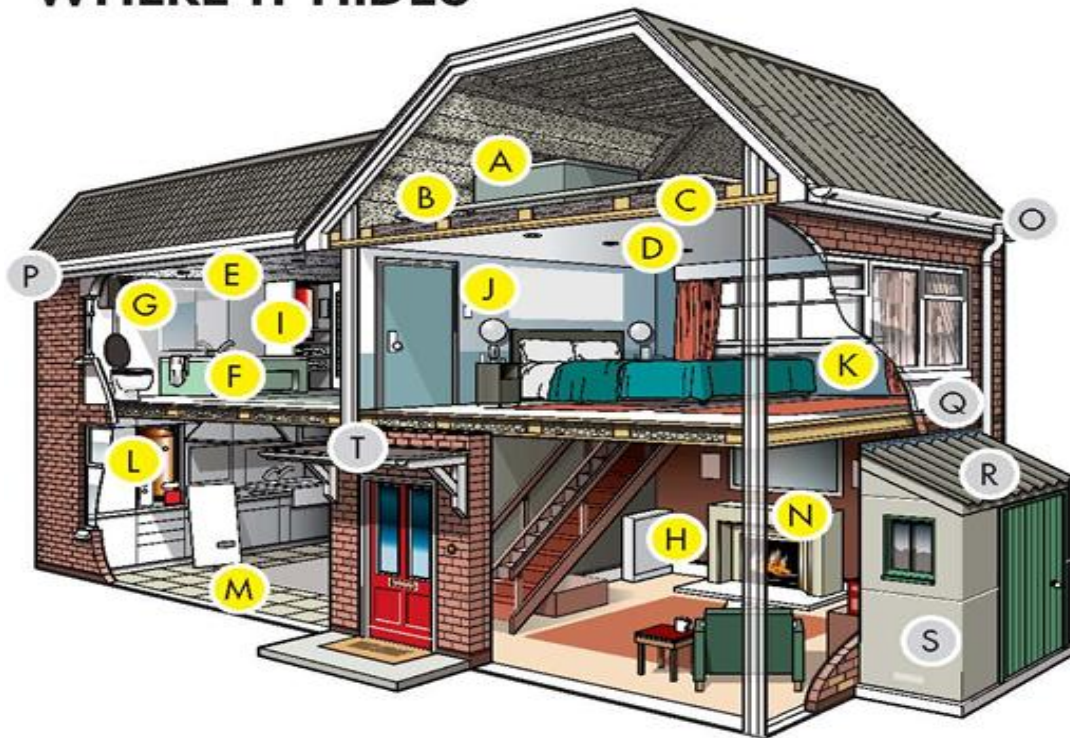
1. Sprayed coatings on ceilings, walls, beams and columns
2. Asbestos cement water tank
3. Loose fill insulation
4. Lagging on boilers and pipes
5. AIB ceiling tiles
6. Toilet seat and cistern
7. AIB partition walls
8. AIB panels in fire doors
9. Asbestos rope seals, gaskets and paper
10. Vinyl floor tiles
11. AIB around boilers
12. Textiles eg fire blankets
13. Textured decorating coatings on walls and ceilings eg artex

Outside Industrial Properties

14. Asbestos cement roof
15. Asbestos cement panels
16. Asbestos cement gutters and downpipes
17. Soffits – AIB or asbestos cement
18. Asbestos cement flue

AIB = Asbestos Insulating Board

ASBESTOS WHERE IT HIDES



Inside Domestic Properties

- A. Asbestos cement Water tank
- B. Pipe lagging
- C. Loose fill insulation
- D. Textured decorative coating eg artex
- E. AIB ceiling tiles
- F. AIB bath panel
- G. Toilet seat and cistern
- H. AIB behind fuse box
- I. AIB airing cupboard and/or sprayed insulation coating boiler
- J. AIB partition wall
- K. AIB interior window panel
- L. AIB around boiler
- M. Vinyl floor tiles
- N. AIB behind fire

Outside Domestic Properties

- O. Asbestos cement gutters and downpipes
- P. Soffits – AIB or asbestos cement
- Q. AIB exterior window panel
- R. Asbestos cement roof
- S. Asbestos cement panels
- T. Roofing felt

AIB = Asbestos Insulating Board

YOU SHOULD ONLY SIGN THIS SHEET IF YOU HAVE UNDERSTOOD THE INFORMATION PROVIDED.
IF YOU ARE IN ANY DOUBT OR UNSURE ABOUT ANYTHING COVERED BY THIS TOOL BOX TALK
PLEASE ASKED THE PERSON DELIVERING THE TALK TO EXPLAIN MORE FULLY.

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME	JOB DESCRIPTION	SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE OF PERSON DELIVERING TOOL BOX TALK: _____