



## **Kentish Council Asbestos Information**

**Asbestos was commonly used in building materials from the 1940s until the mid-1990s. Because exposure to asbestos can cause disease, a national ban on the manufacture, importation and installation of products containing asbestos was introduced from 1 January 2004.**

The inhalation of asbestos fibres may result in serious diseases, such as asbestosis, mesothelioma or lung cancer. Because the level of exposure that may cause health problems is unknown, any exposure to asbestos should be avoided.

Asbestos may be found either firmly or loosely bound in a number of products once used in the Australian building industry, including:

- roofing and shingles
- under eaves
- exterior wall cladding
- interior walls and wet areas
- fencing
- thermal boards around fireplaces and in switch boards
- backing material on floor tiles and vinyl flooring
- gaskets and seals in wood stoves
- textured paint
- garages and workshops
- the brakes, clutches and gaskets of cars
- insulation used on hot water pipes, hot water cylinders, domestic heaters and stoves

Asbestos may also be found in a range of other products (see below).

It is estimated that at least one in every three buildings constructed between the 1940's and 1990's contain asbestos products.

### **What does asbestos look like?**

It is very difficult to identify asbestos by looking at it. If you are uncertain about what a substance is, you should treat it as though it contains asbestos. The only way to be certain is to have a sample analysed by a laboratory. A licensed asbestos removalist could also help identify materials containing asbestos.

### **What should I do if I find asbestos?**

If you are concerned about any asbestos in your home you should contact a licensed asbestos removalist who can assist you. A list of licensed asbestos removalists can be found on the Workplace Standards Tasmania website at [www.wst.tas.gov.au](http://www.wst.tas.gov.au) (search for 'licensed asbestos removalists') or by contacting the Workplace Standards Helpline on 1300 366 322.



**How do I contact my local disposal facility?**

Phone: (03) 6427 3351

**On which days/times can I take my asbestos to my nearest disposal facility?**

Monday to Friday 7:30am to 4pm

Saturday, Sunday & Public Holidays 11am to 4pm

**Closed:** Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Day, Devonport Cup, Good Friday, Easter Sunday & ANZAC Day

**Useful contacts**

Kentish Council ph (03) 64912500: Georgina Crantock or Robert Taylor

Workplace Standards Tasmania has a dedicated asbestos website:

[www.asbestos.tas.gov.au](http://www.asbestos.tas.gov.au)

Information is also available at [www.wst.tas.gov.au](http://www.wst.tas.gov.au) or by phoning the Workplace Standards Helpline on 1300 366 322 (inside Tasmania) or (03) 6233 7657 (outside Tasmania).

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