



Lead-aware guide to renovation, home maintenance and repainting in Port Pirie

Prepared by the Environmental Health Centre, Port Pirie



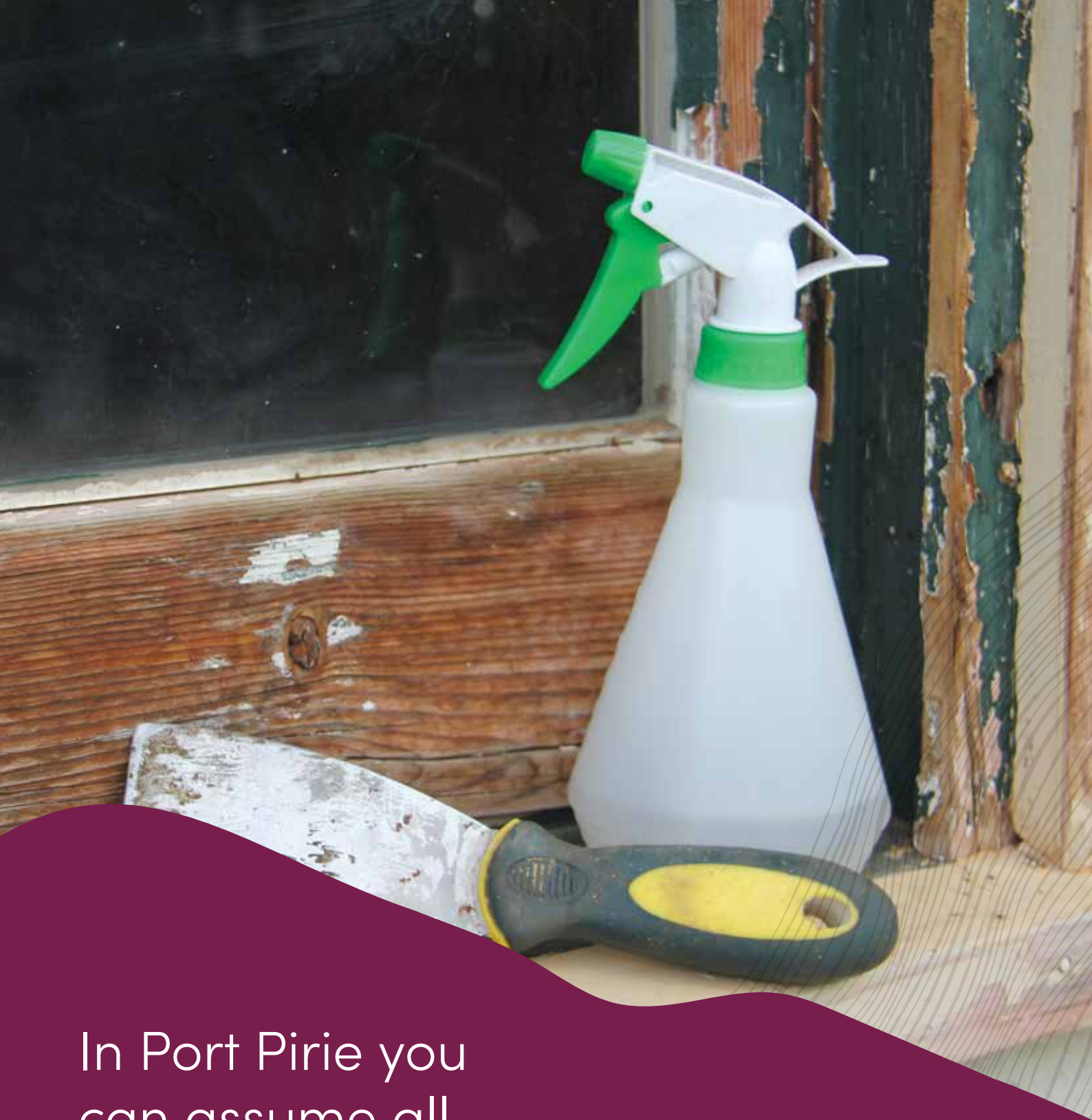
Health
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In 1969 the amount of lead in domestic paint was reduced from 50% to 1%. The maximum content was further reduced to 0.1% in 1997 and to the current standard of 0.009% in 2021.

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In Port Pirie you can assume all renovations, maintenance and repainting activities will create some lead exposure risk.

Renovating, home maintenance and repainting in Port Pirie

In Port Pirie dust inside and outside homes and bare soil in yards is likely to contain some lead due to the environmental lead contamination from more than a century of lead smelting.

Dust and soil are also likely to have been contaminated with lead as a result of lead being used in paint and petrol previously. Paint in older homes, especially those built before mid-1970s also contained large amounts of lead. Leaded petrol was phased out in Australia by 2002.

Lead is harmful to your health, especially for unborn babies, young children and pets and becomes a risk to you and your family when maintenance or renovation work disturbs existing lead paint, dust and soil in your home and yard. This can also increase the lead exposure risk of your neighbours. Lead gets into our bodies when we breathe in lead contaminated dust or fumes or through swallowing small lead dust particles.

There is no safe level of lead exposure. In Port Pirie where there is ongoing and historical environmental lead contamination, all additional lead exposure risks must be minimised. You can do your bit by taking precautions while carrying out home renovations, maintenance, or repainting to minimise yours, your family's and the community's lead exposure.

All renovation work in Port Pirie is likely to carry some risk of increasing yours, your family's and the community's lead exposure because all dust and soil in Port Pirie has some level of lead contamination as a result of more than a century of lead smelting, and use of lead in paint and petrol previously.

This booklet aims to provide basic information for do-it-yourself renovators in Port Pirie on ways to minimise lead exposure risks. Ideally medium to large renovations should be carried out by professionals, especially if lead paint is involved as well. Users of this booklet should carry out their own investigations and if necessary seek appropriate expert advice in relation to their situations. This booklet should be read in conjunction with other documents referred to in this booklet, and any other legislation and/or policies that are relevant to home and yard renovations and maintenance.

Some sources of lead in your house and yard that you need to consider when renovating:

Lead contaminated dust from previous renovations involving lead paint, historic lead in petrol and current and historical smelting

Lead paint – especially if your house was built prior to mid-1970s

Lead in soil – current and historical smelting

Leadlight

Carpets – especially older carpets even if they are in good condition

Sheet lead

Lead flashing and lead solder

Ceramic tiles

Some common sources of lead in houses, buildings, structures and yards

Lead contaminated dust

Dust contaminated with lead can accumulate over the years in ceiling and wall cavities, between and underneath floorboards and in carpets and underlay. Soft furnishings such as lounges and curtains can also get contaminated, especially if not removed or covered with plastic during past renovations. Settled dust can be re-distributed and contaminate surfaces inside the house when vacuuming with a vacuum without a HEPA (High Efficiency Particulate Air) filter, sweeping or walking through.

In Port Pirie the contamination of dust is mostly due to more than a hundred years of smelting, the presence of lead in petrol and paint in the past has also contributed towards this contamination. Lead paint can still be found in some houses and structures in Port Pirie.

Lead paint

Before 1970, paint used in many Australian houses contained high levels of lead, because lead is an effective colour pigment and it makes paint tough and durable. In 1969 the amount of lead in domestic paint was reduced from 50% to 1%. The maximum content was further reduced to 0.25% in 1992, 0.1% in 1997 and to the current level of 0.009% in 2021.

Lead paint can contribute towards contamination of indoor dust, small particles of lead paint can be released as a result of normal wear and tear around windows, doors, stairs, skirting boards and other features. Deteriorating lead paint can peel off in large pieces, flake and chalk.

During maintenance and renovations lead paint can be disturbed or damaged releasing fine lead contaminated dust that can be breathed in or contaminate other parts of the house and property if proper precautions aren't taken. Children can accidentally eat paint chips or dust.

Lead contaminated soil

Similar to dust, soil in Port Pirie has been contaminated with lead as a result of historical and ongoing smelting activities. You should assume all soil in Port Pirie contains some level of lead. Another common source of contamination of soil is old lead paint either peeling or being washed off exterior walls, fences, sheds and garages.

Contaminated soil can be ingested by children, or brought in to the house on shoes, clothes, toys or animals. Lead is non-biodegradable – it does not break down. Once in the soil, if it isn't moved, it is there forever.

Leadlight

Leadlight can be found in older homes as a decorative feature. Renovations and restorations involving lead light can result in the production of lead fumes and dust. Lead fumes can be produced when solder is melted and sawing old frames can generate dust. In addition the plaster and fillings around the glass can also potentially contain lead as result of lead getting absorbed into them over the years.

Lead comes (strips of lead that hold the glass in place) can also oxidise over time causing a white coating that can rub off. Sawing lead comes can also release lead contaminated dust.

Carpets

In Port Pirie lead contaminated dust is likely to be present in carpets (and underlays) even if the carpet appears to be in good condition. Lead contaminated dust can get trapped at the bottom of the pile and regular vacuuming is not likely to get rid of all the dust. Incorrectly removing or replacing lead dust contaminated carpets and underlay can disturb and distribute the dust and contaminate your house.

Sheet lead

Sheet lead was used in older houses and is still used now, although likely to a lesser extent. Some uses of sheet lead include:

- damp courses around the base of external walls, on house support pillars, around chimneys etc
- waterproof linings in kitchens, bathrooms, laundries, sinks and cisterns
- box and tapered gutters
- cladding, fascias and as protection against weathering and termites

Lead exposure risk can be created from burning, cutting, repair, removal and handling of structures containing sheet lead.

Lead flashing

Lead flashing is commonly used on roofs. This consists of a strip of sheet lead used for weather-proofing gaps. Lead flashing has also been used in gaps around:

- windows
- doors and chimneys
- between two roofs or a roof and a wall

Soldering lead flashing can create fumes that are dangerous.

Ceramic tiles and other sources

Ceramic tiles in good condition do not generally pose a lead risk, however, surface abrading and demolition activities such as breaking or crushing may release lead from some glazes. Water pipes and some plumbing in very old houses may also contain lead.

Plan, Prepare, Protect & Clean Up

PLAN to minimise dust generation and spread

- Consider using a contractor or professional painter (if repainting) trained in lead-aware management and removal, particularly for medium/large areas. The following organisations can assist in providing contacts for professional painters:
 - Master Painters Australia (SA) Institute
 - Master Builders South Australia
 - Painters Institute

PREPARE – consider your options:

- Get the right equipment and prepare your work area appropriately
- If repainting areas containing lead paint, you may be able to cover some areas with lead-free paint but only if the existing paintwork is in good condition (not chalking or flaking), you may need to remove the paint in other areas and in some cases you may be able to remove painted areas entirely such as skirting boards

PROTECT yourself, your family and the community

- Use appropriate personal protective equipment
- Relocate pregnant women, children and pets
- Inform your neighbours and avoid working on windy days especially when doing outdoor work

CLEAN UP and waste disposal:

- Prepare and plan for clean up after each day (for medium to large jobs) and after the job is finished (for all jobs)
- Find out any special requirements for disposal of contaminated waste from the local council – see contacts page 30



Consider getting
a contractor
experienced in
lead paint removal
to carry out the
works for you.

Lead-aware precautions for renovation, maintenance and repainting

Before you start

In Port Pirie you can assume all renovations, maintenance and repainting activities will create some lead exposure risk. If you are choosing to use contractors (builders, painters or other tradespeople), check that they are experienced in lead aware renovations. If you decide to do the work yourself it is important that you contact the Environmental Health Centre for advice before you start.

Working with lead paint

While all renovation in Port Pirie has some level of lead exposure risk associated with it, repainting with the intent to remove old paint that contains lead significantly increases the level of risk.

Testing for lead paint

Houses built pre-1970 will likely have been painted with lead based paint. Do-it-yourself lead paint test kits are available at some hardware stores and should be used before you start renovating. These kits are relatively cheap but have limited accuracy. Laboratory testing is the most reliable method to find out whether paint in the area you are planning to renovate contains lead paint but it is expensive.

If you are unsure whether the area you are planning to renovate contains lead paint or not, assume it does – especially if built prior to mid-1970s – take necessary precautions for paint removal such as wet sanding.

If you intend to repaint, the safest option is painting straight over old lead paint if the surface is in good condition. However, it should be noted that if the surface layer of paint deteriorates then the lead paint underneath can get exposed.

Consider getting a contractor experienced in lead paint removal to carry out the works for you. If you decide to carry out the paint removal by yourself then it is important to use the safest method possible.

Before removing lead paint

Wash and clean the surface of grime and dirt with sugar soap.

Some low dust generation methods for removal of lead paint

- wet sanding – use Wet and Dry sandpaper to help the paint stick to the surface and prevent lead dust
- wet scraping – use a spray bottle to wet the painted surface and scrape the wet paint
- chemical stripping – follow manufacturer's directions and it must only be carried out in a well ventilated room
- low temperature heat processes – toxic fumes can be generated at temperatures as low as 200°C and heat guns should be controlled to ensure that this temperature is not exceeded. Scrape softened paint directly into a disposable container before it re-hardens to avoid having to sand or scrape to clean it up.

After removing lead paint

Wash down any walls you have wet sanded with sugar soap, rinse and allow to dry before repainting.

Take care not to generate lead dust and ensure that the surrounding areas are not contaminated by water that might contain small particles released by the wet sanding process.

For more information on lead based paint and lead-aware painting contact the Environmental Health Centre for a copy of the 6 Step Guide to Painting Your Home.

Plan

It is important that you plan for the work you are going to undertake, which includes; planning for:

- materials needed
- containing dust in the work area and avoiding transfer of dust from the work area
- relocating children, pregnant women and other occupants, including pets until the works are finished and cleaning has been completed
- personal protective equipment (PPE) you need to protect yourself
- cleaning up the work and surrounding areas
- proper waste disposal, covering and disposing of all lead-containing building materials directly to the local waste transfer station

Develop a simple lead aware plan

Determine the size of the job. Following is a guide that can help you decide whether the job you are planning to carry out is a small or a medium to large job in terms of lead exposure risk:

Small Jobs

In these tasks small amounts of dust is likely to be generated and dust is not likely to spread too far from the work area. Most of the dust can be contained by using drop sheets. If a heat gun is used some fumes may be generated and personal protective equipment is required. Some examples of small jobs include:

- Repainting or removing chipped or peeling paint from small areas
- Patching broken plaster
- Replacing a broken window
- Fixing a broken piece of fence or window moulding
- Replacing an electrical fitting*
- Soldering electrical connections*
- Small planting or gardening

Medium to Large Jobs

Far more dust is generated in these jobs (moderate to large) which is easily visible. Dust is likely to spread beyond the work area and needs to be contained. Large amounts of fumes are likely to be produced which must be contained in the work area and personal protective equipment must be used. Some examples of medium to large jobs include:

- Ceiling replacement
- Demolishing a wall, shed or garage
- Removing or replacing carpet
- Remodelling a kitchen or bathroom
- Re-tiling a bathroom
- Installing a skylight
- Removing or replacing floor boards
- Installing a hot water service*
- Adding a second storey*
- Indoor painting an entire wall, ceiling, window frame, door or room
- Outdoor painting a fence, verandah, roof or house
- Landscaping or installing a swimming pool

Plan for materials and equipment needed

Collect all equipment and materials before the work starts. Most of the equipment listed below can be purchased at hardware stores. The few special tools you may require can be hired.

- P1 (dust) or P2 (dust and fumes) AS-1716 half-face respirator to protect against fine dust and fumes
- Disposable coveralls and plastic shoe/boot covers
- An industrial vacuum cleaner fitted with a High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filter. Domestic vacuum cleaners, even with a HEPA filter, are only suitable for small jobs inside the house
- Heavy-duty plastic sheeting to seal off work areas, protect household items and collect debris
- Rolls of heavy-duty tape to hold plastic in place
- Wet-and-dry sandpaper and wet-sanding sponges
- Spray bottles to wet surfaces and stop dust from spreading
- Rubber household or dish-washing gloves for cleaning
- Cleaning products such as sugar soap
- Mops and buckets for cleaning hard surfaces
- Plenty of disposable rags, sponges and lint-free towels
- Have an area cleared, or trailer ready, to place debris and make arrangements prior to renovations for the disposal of contents

*Some jobs require an electrician, plumber or licensed builder.

Prepare


Working inside

Small jobs

Take steps to avoid contaminating the area nearby and make clean up easier after the work is complete. If possible remove soft furniture, curtains, rugs and other movable household items from the room in which works are going to be carried out. If removal of these items is not possible then move the items as far from the work area as possible and loosely wrap or cover them in plastic sheeting. Items that cannot be moved should also be covered with plastic sheeting. Cover surrounding carpet as extra protection.

Place a plastic non-slip drop sheet under the area to be worked on. The plastic should be large enough to catch any dust and debris produced during the works. The edge of the plastic should be folded up onto the nearest wall and secured with tape to prevent any dust falling between the edge of the plastic and the wall.

As an added precaution, if working on a wall, tape one side of a plastic bag to the wall directly under the spot to be worked on. This will catch any dust and debris generated during the work by forming a 'pouch'.



Tape plastic bag
to wall to catch
dust and debris

Fold plastic up
wall and tape

Place plastic
drop sheet under
the area to
be worked on

Medium to large jobs

Soft furniture, curtains, rugs and other movable household items should be removed from the area where the work will be carried out. If removal is not possible, fully wrap them with plastic sheeting and seal with tape. Once wrapped, cover the items with a plastic drop sheet.

The floor should be covered with non-slip plastic, and where possible ensuring it extends a minimum of five metres from the edge of the work area. The plastic should be taped to walls and overlap with drop sheets.

The work area should be sealed off from the rest of the house and outside. Two pieces of plastic sheeting can be taped to the door frame leading to the work area to ensure that most of the dust generated during the works is kept in the work area. The plastic sheeting should overlap vertically (but do not tape them together) so they form a slit through which workers can pass.

Windows should be closed and sealed if dust will be generated to prevent the dust from leaving the work area (unless using chemical strippers – refer to 6 Step Guide to Painting Your Home). To prevent contamination air-conditioning or central heating vents should also be covered with plastic sheeting and tape. All openings such as gaps around pipes and between floorboards should be covered with plastic sheeting and tape to prevent dust seeping into other areas of the home.





Overlap
dropsheets
at doorway to
stop dust but
allow access

Time taken to prepare the work
area will prevent other parts of
the building being contaminated
and make clean-up easier.

Fold plastic up
wall and tape

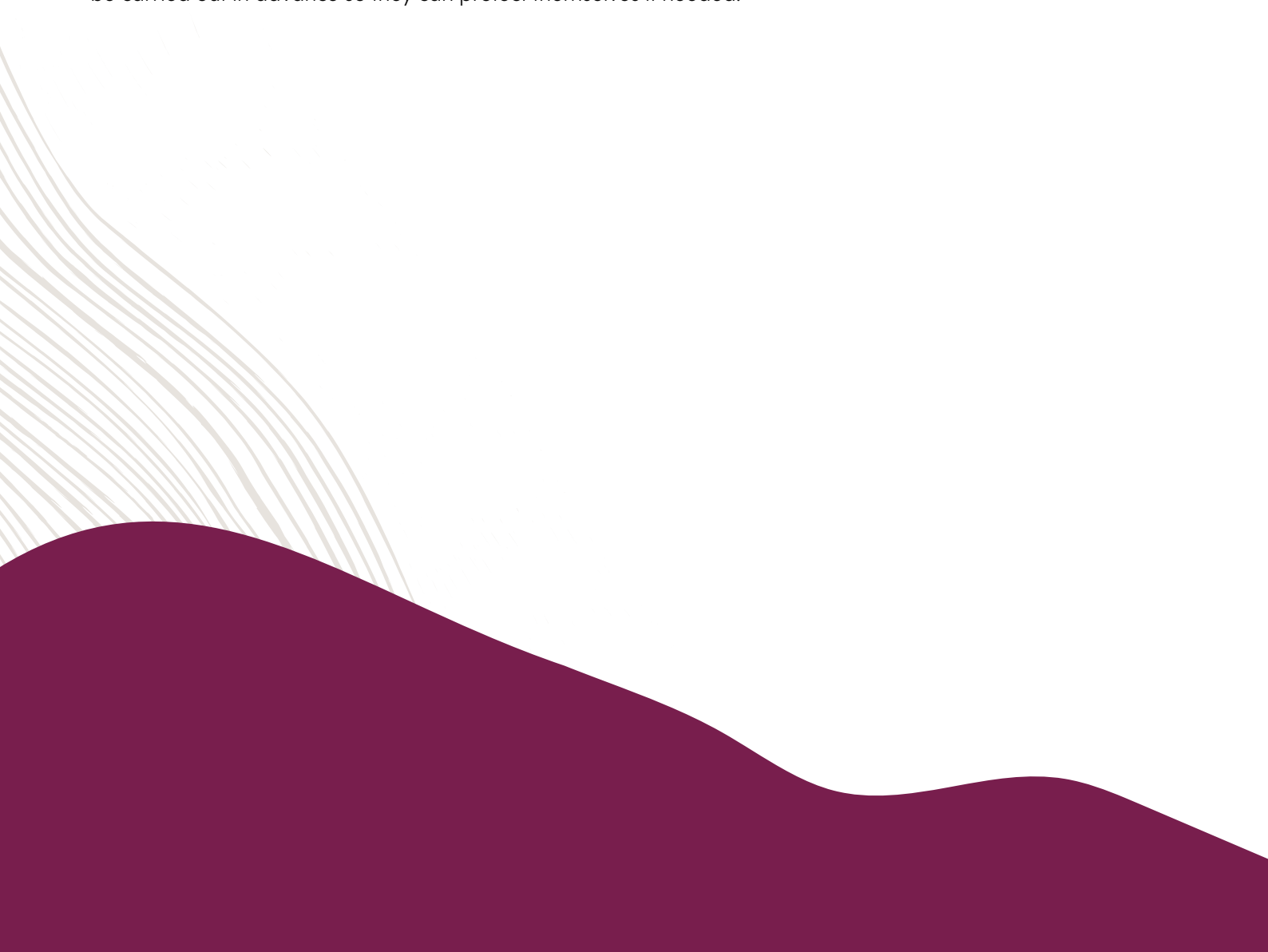
Working outside


Avoid working on a windy day.

Avoid contaminating the soil in the yard, garden, children's play area and equipment and outdoor seating areas. Lay plastic sheeting under the work area (extending at least two metres from the base of the wall) and over nearby ground and plants to protect the backyard, garden and children's play area. Remove plastic sheeting as soon as clean-up is finished so that debris is not blown around. Bricks or rocks can be used to hold the sheeting in place. Place lengths of wood underneath the edges of the plastic to create a small (approximately 100mm high) ridge, which will prevent contaminated water from flowing off the plastic and onto the garden.

Cover children's sandpits and if possible move the sandpits (e.g. clam shell sandpits) at least ten metres away from the area where works are going to be carried out. Similarly play equipment should be covered or where possible moved to at least ten metres away from the work area.

Close all windows and doors so that any dust produced does not blow inside. Notify neighbours of the works to be carried out in advance so they can protect themselves if needed.





Close windows
to stop
dust entering
the house

Ridges prevent
waste liquid
from escaping

Lay plastic
under the
work area

Properly laid plastic sheeting under the work area will prevent lead dust and paint chips from contaminating the soil and garden, which can be a real problem.



Wear personal protective equipment including disposable coveralls, plastic shoe/boot covers and gloves.



Protect

Protect yourself

Wear personal protective equipment including disposable coveralls, plastic shoe/boot covers and gloves. Don't eat, drink or smoke in the work area and always wash and dry face and hands before eating. Shower and wash your hair after finishing each day's work.

Always put on protective equipment (respirator and work clothes) when entering the work area. Leave them in the work area when you need to go out.

Shoe/boot covers prevent dirt and contaminated dust from being tracked out of the work area on the soles of your shoes. If shoe/boot covers are not available, leave work shoes/boots in the work area when leaving.

Protect your family and pets

Ensure that the work area is not accessible to pregnant women, children or pets while the work occurs. The rooms or areas where work is being done will need to be blocked off or sealed with plastic sheeting to contain dust. Because you may not have access to some areas during renovations you should plan accordingly as you may need alternative bedroom, living, bathroom and kitchen arrangements if work is occurring in those areas.

Store work clothes separate from rest of the family's laundry and wash them separately.

If the rest of your family has relocated during the renovations, take precautions to avoid 'take home' lead. Shower and change from clothes worn during the renovations before interacting with your family. Personal items taken to renovation site such mobile phones and car keys should be wiped clean often and kept away from children. Keep your vehicle windows and vents closed while parked near the area where renovations are carried out and wash and clean your vehicle regularly.

Protect your neighbours and the community

Let your neighbours know that you will be undertaking renovations before work commences, particularly if the work is outside. Check weather reports and plan work for non-windy conditions.



Thoroughly clean
up the work area to
make sure the house
is completely free of
contaminated lead
dust and debris.

Clean Up

- Avoid dry sweeping as it spreads dust
- Use wet wiping methods including sugar soap
- Use a vacuum cleaner with a HEPA (High Efficiency Particulate Air) filter

Thoroughly cleaning up the work area using proper methods is very important. Once the work is finished, to ensure that your family does not get exposed to lead contaminated dust, it is important to make sure the house is completely free of contaminated lead dust and debris. Clean non-electrical tools with water and sugar soap as well. Clean up daily to reduce the chance of contaminating other areas, not just when the job is finished. Ensure clean up occurs before pregnant women, children and pets return.

Small jobs

To avoid contaminating areas that are not heavily contaminated, start the clean-up from the cleanest point and work towards the dirtiest area. Clean from the highest point first, then walls, rails, skirting boards and floors. In this way any contaminated dust falling off from higher areas will be cleaned off as well.

Use one cloth to wet wipe the entire work area where you believe that the dust may have settled, using sugar soap. Replace the wash water frequently and especially when you see that the water is visibly dirty. Use another cloth to rinse the cleaned area with clean water.

Floors should be cleaned by vacuuming using a HEPA vacuum and then mopped. Clean up after all renovations is best carried out using an industrial vacuum with a HEPA filter, however, for small jobs a domestic vacuum with a HEPA filter that is not used for day to day household vacuuming may be used and the area must be vacuumed twice. This is likely to contaminate the domestic vacuum cleaner and the vacuum parts should be cleaned thoroughly and all filters replaced.

Avoid sweeping the drop sheet or floor, as this can spread the dust. The drop sheet should be lightly misted and gently rolled inwards to avoid distributing dust. Dispose of drop sheet, all waste including dirt and dust from the vacuum cleaner and other used cleaning materials in sealed plastic bags. Dispose of used water down the drain. Do not empty water from the cleaning buckets in the garden or backyard as this can contaminate the soil and plants.

Medium to large jobs

Begin clean up by removing all large debris by hand or with wet rags. Clean all surfaces other than the floor as described under small jobs on page 14 and roll drop sheets inward to avoid distributing dust. Dispose of drop sheet, all waste including dirt and dust from the vacuum cleaner and other used cleaning materials in sealed plastic bags. Dispose of used water down the drain. Do not empty water from the cleaning buckets in the garden or backyard as this can contaminate the soil and plants


Dispose of waste safely in sealed heavy-duty plastic bags in the household rubbish, skip bin or at the waste transfer station/dump. If working inside, avoid carrying waste bags through clean areas of the house – if possible; pass bags out through a window instead. Once finished, give all surfaces of furniture and fittings a final wipe. When working outside, collect larger pieces of debris. Shovel small pieces of paint debris, used rags and other cleaning materials into heavy-duty plastic bags, seal.

To clean soft flooring you will need an industrial High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) vacuum cleaner, do not use a domestic vacuum cleaner without a HEPA filter as fine dust particles will pass straight through the machine and spread throughout the work area and beyond.

To clean hard flooring you will need to use the 'Three Bucket Method'. You will need a mop bucket, a cleaning solution containing sugar soap and a rinse bucket. Vacuum the flooring with an industrial HEPA filter vacuum prior to cleaning it using the 'Three Bucket Method'.

'Three Bucket Method'

This cleaning technique is a lot simpler than it looks and, if done properly, will effectively remove lead dust and debris from the work area. The technique involves washing hard floors with detergent and then rinsing with clean water.

- You need three buckets and two mops (one for wash, one for rinse)
- 



Mix the detergent (as per directions on the label) in the first bucket, leave the second bucket empty and fill the third bucket with water.



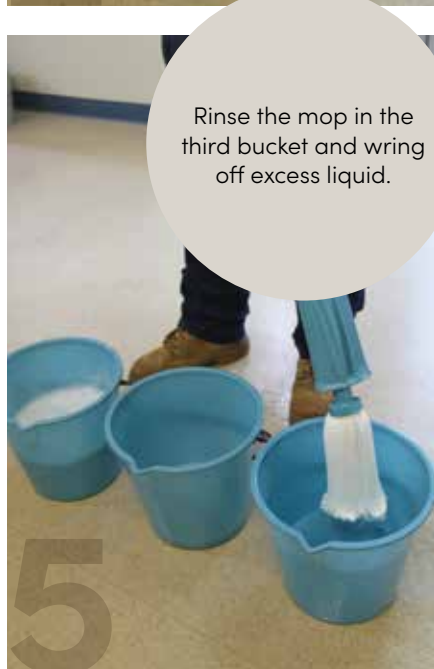
Dip the wash mop in the detergent bucket and wring off excess liquid.



Mop small sections of the work until the mop is dry or dirty.



Wring the mop into the empty bucket.



Rinse the mop in the third bucket and wring off excess liquid.



Repeat steps 2 to 5 until the floor is clean. Change the detergent solution periodically.

The rinse procedure:

After washing, use the same system as above except that no detergent is used in the first bucket, just water. So now you have a clean rinse bucket, an empty bucket and a dirty rinse bucket. You will now use the second clean mop.

1. Fill the first (clean rinse) bucket with water, leave the second bucket empty and fill the third (dirty rinse) bucket with water.
2. Dip the rinse mop in the clean rinse bucket and wring off excess liquid.
3. Mop small sections of the work until the mop is dry or dirty.
4. Wring the mop into the empty bucket.
5. Rinse the mop in the third dirty rinse bucket and wring off excess liquid.
6. Repeat steps 2 to 5 until no wash residue is left. Change the water in both clean and dirty rinse buckets when water changes colour.

EHC tips for renovation, maintenance and repainting in Port Pirie

Consider using a professional contractor, especially if removing lead paint and for medium to large jobs

Use methods that minimize dust generation

Use the right tools and methods

Protect yourself – use PPE and take precautions to avoid taking contaminated lead dust back to your family

Don't work on windy days – postpone until weather is more favourable

Contain dust and debris to a small area – avoid the spread to other parts of the house or property

Keep pregnant women, children and pets away until work is complete and area has been cleaned

Clean thoroughly, use wet wiping methods and a vacuum cleaner with a HEPA filter

Dispose of waste appropriately – check with your local council regarding waste disposal

If in doubt contact the Environmental Health Centre

Precautions to take when carrying out renovations and maintenance

Paint:

- Use methods that minimise dust generation
- If repainting – consider covering lead-based paint with lead-free paint instead of removing it, but only if it is in good condition (for example, not flaking or chalking). This is only a temporary solution as lead-based paint can be exposed if the covering paint starts to deteriorate
- Replace items which contain lead paint where possible such as skirting boards
- Use wet scraping and wet sanding

Refer to the Lead Alert: The six step guide to painting your home for details on lead aware guidelines on removing lead paint – see pg 30

Leadlight:

- Using lower temperatures for soldering is likely to release less fumes than using higher temperatures. Wet down lead comes prior to cutting to minimise dust generation from cutting or use alternate methods which include using sharp knives or tin snips
- It is important to keep leadlight windows/furniture in good condition or if possible, cover glass or relocate item somewhere less accessible to children

Carpets:

- It is important to minimise lead exposure during carpet removal or replacement.
- Vacuum the carpet prior to removal with a HEPA filter vacuum
- Lightly spray the carpet with water (and underlay if removing underlay as well)

Follow the Environmental Health Centres' 5-step guide for details on lead-aware steps for carpet removal – see pg 30

Soil:

Risk of dust generation or tracking in of soil during outdoor renovations and maintenance work can be reduced if all bare soil is covered. Environmental Health Centre recommends that all bare soil be covered by the following options:

- Plants, ground covers or grass (real or synthetic)
- Mulch or pine chips
- Pavers, crusher dust or concrete

Ceiling dust removal:

This is a high risk dust generation activity and requires specialist equipment to avoid contaminating your house. Consider hiring a professional, you can also get advice from Australian Dust Removalists Association (ADRA) via the LEAD Group on (02) 9716 0132.

Lead Aware Renovator's Checklist

BEFORE YOU START

- ☐ Determine the size of your renovation or maintenance –small or medium to large job and develop a simple lead aware work plan including equipment needed and PPE required, methods to use and waste disposal and clean up strategies.
- ☐ Make arrangements to keep pregnant women, children and pets away while the works are being carried out and until clean-up is completed. For larger renovations make alternative living arrangements during renovations and until the clean-up is completed
- ☐ Contact the Environmental Health Centre to discuss lead dust minimisation

PREPARE THE WORK AREA

INDOORS

- ☐ Seal or cover floor, doors and windows with plastic and tape
- ☐ If possible move soft furnishings, rugs, curtains, clothes and other items out of the work area or cover with plastic and seal with tape
- ☐ Cover carpet flooring with anti-slip plastic sheeting and secure to avoid trip hazards

OUTDOORS

- ☐ Lay plastic sheeting under work area and over plants and secure down
- ☐ Cover or move children's play equipment away from the work area
- ☐ Advise neighbours and check weather conditions – avoid working on windy/dusty days

DURING WORK

- ☐ Wear appropriate personal protective equipment
- ☐ Do not eat, drink or smoke in the work area
- ☐ Wash and dry hands and face before eating, drinking or smoking
- ☐ Wet-sand and scrape old lead paint, avoid using methods that create dust or lead fume
- ☐ Take precautions to minimise dust generation and spread outside the work area

AFTER YOU FINISH

- ☐ Wet-wipe and mop (3 bucket system) the work area – do not dry sweep the area
- ☐ Use a vacuum fitted with a High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filter
- ☐ Debris including used disposable PPE should not be stored in the yard, as it can contaminate the soil. Carefully wrap dust and debris; bag it and seal before disposing. Check with local council for any special requirements for contaminated waste
- ☐ Do not resell or giveaway items from the renovation that could be a lead-risk to other families including carpets, fittings and furniture with deteriorating lead paint
- ☐ Do not burn painted wood, as this will release harmful fumes

Contacts

- Information on health effects of lead exposure and ways to minimise your exposure contact the Environmental Health Centre on 8638 4100
- Port Pirie Regional Council on 8633 9777 for more information on waste disposal and renovation requirements
- South Australian Environment Protection Agency (EPA) for more information on lead in the environment
- For qualified contractors and painters contact:
 - National Painting and Decorating Institute – 1300 319 790
 - Master Builders SA – 8211 7466
 - Master Painters Australia of South Australia – 0414 351 756
 - Australian Dust Removalist Association – via The LEAD Group (02) 9716 0132

Important resources

- Lead Alert: The six step guide to painting your home – [www.environment.gov.au](http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/e9ddd00e-8914-4d57-8279-19b3d2616dee/files/lead-paint-fifth-edition.pdf)
<https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/e9ddd00e-8914-4d57-8279-19b3d2616dee/files/lead-paint-fifth-edition.pdf>
- NSW Lead Reference Centre (LRC). 1998. A renovator's guide to the dangers of lead. Environment protection Authority, Chadswood, Australia.
- Lead-aware guide to carpet removal in Port Pirie – www.sahealth.sa.gov.au
<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/112eb736-319f-4b85-9a4f-e43ea41a9d9e/19002.8+EHC+Safe+Carpet+Removal+Fact+Sheet-v4.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE-112eb736-319f-4b85-9a4f-e43ea41a9d9e-ndkLz5B>
- Lead in stained glass – www.environment.gov.au
<http://www.environment.gov.au/protection/chemicals-management/lead/lead-in-stained-glass>
- Broken Hill resource 'Build smart. Renovating and maintenance' – www.leadsmart.nsw.gov.au
<https://www.leadsmart.nsw.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/LeadSmart-Brochure-Renovating.pdf>
- Australian Dust Removalists Association – Australian Dust Removalists Association (A.D.R.A) Inc
- NSW resource 'Lead gardening and home renovations' – www.epa.nsw.gov.au
<https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/-/media/epa/corporate-site/resources/pesticides/18p0822-lead-gardening-home-renovations.pdf>
- SA Health webpage on lead paint – www.sahealth.sa.gov.au
<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/healthy+living/protecting+your+health/environmental+health/lead+reducing+your+exposure/lead+paint+and+your+health>

Videos:

- How to remove lead paint safely – www.sahealth.sa.gov.au
<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/healthy+living/protecting+your+health/environmental+health/lead+reducing+your+exposure/safety+precautions+when+repairing+and+renovating+your+home#scrollTo=Video:HowtoRemoveLeadPaintSafely4>
- Understanding lead paint hazards – www.sahealth.sa.gov.au
<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/healthy+living/protecting+your+health/environmental+health/lead+reducing+your+exposure/lead+paint+information+for+painters+and+paint+retailers#scrollTo=Video:UnderstandingLeadPaintHazards4>
- How to do a lead paint test – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aWSQUEpZudI>
- Lead aware renovation videos from 'The Program' Trail – <https://thep.ca/>
<https://thep.ca/building-renovating/#lead-safe-videos>

Acknowledgements

With permission, the content of this booklet has been obtained from the following sources:

- NSW Lead Reference Centre (LRC). 1998. A renovator's guide to the dangers of lead. Environment Protection Authority, Chadswood, Australia. ISBN: 0 7313 0167 6
- Lead Alert: The six step guide to painting your home—5th edition, Commonwealth of Australia 2016.
- The Environmental Health Centre does not endorse any brands pictured in this Guide

For more information

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