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Asbestos Risk

Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral made up of many small fibres. These fibres are carcinogenic, which means they can cause cancer. The risk to health increases with the number of fibres you breathe in and how often you are exposed to these fibres. Left undisturbed, asbestos is safe – but if it is exposed or damaged, it can be harmful.

Conditions caused by inhaling asbestos fibres can include:

- asbestosis (inflammation and scarring of the lung)
- lung cancer
- mesothelioma (a type of cancer that develops in the linings of your internal organs)
- Asbestos fibres are released into the air when something disturbs them in soil, rock, or when building materials containing asbestos are disturbed because of building construction or demolition

Asbestos Materials - Identification

Older houses, especially those constructed prior to 2000 may contain asbestos in building materials. Any asbestos placed in the skip causes a health risk to yourself and the contractors dealing with the waste. There are regulations controlling the removal of asbestos, which contractors should be aware of.

Asbestos can be found in many places in older properties but some of the most common include:

- Cladding (internal and external),
- Vinyl Flooring,
- roofing panels,
- fireplace surrounds,
- fencing,
- pipe cladding
- and many more.

The pictures overleaf will help you recognise different forms of asbestos. If you think any waste or building materials you are removing may contain asbestos, please contact a registered 'asbestos removal' company to test the material and give advice.

Asbestos Fence Panels



Asbestos Roofing



Asbestos Cladding



Asbestos Cladding



Asbestos Roofing



Asbestos Piping



Asbestos Vinyl Flooring



Asbestos Cladding

