

ARTISAN
ENVIRONMENTAL



ASBESTOS TESTING KIT SAMPLING GUIDE

A quick and cost effective way to test
suspect materials for asbestos within your
home or workplace.

ASBESTOS TESTING KIT SAMPLING GUIDE

Thank you for purchasing this asbestos sampling kit. Before you start any sampling it is important you fully read this instruction guide to familiarise yourself with the full process and the specific sampling recommendations for different material types.

Looking through the materials and the annotated house images at the end of the guide (p10-12) may highlight additional suspect materials that you may also want to have tested.

Please note: we do not recommend using this kit for pipe insulation, loose fill or sprayed insulation material. These are **HIGH RISK** materials and would recommend a qualified surveyor to sample these materials.

If you have any questions at any time please call us on: 03303 200 746

Before you start sampling please check that your kit contains the following items:



- ✓ 1 x Cat 5 overall
- ✓ 1 x Disposable FFP3 mask
- ✓ 1 x Pair of disposable gloves
- ✓ 1 x Wet wipe per sample
- ✓ 2 x Small sample bags per sample
- ✓ 1 x large sample bag
- ✓ 2 x Asbestos waste sacks
- ✓ Sampling form (to return with your samples)
- ✓ Pre-paid returns envelope

YOU WILL ALSO NEED DEPENDING ON MATERIALS SAMPLED:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| ✓ Pliers | ✓ Sharp chisel |
| ✓ Hammer | ✓ Sharp knife |
| ✓ Additional wet wipes (if required) | ✓ Plastic sheet e.g. a bin bag laid flat |
| ✓ Water mist spray bottle | ✓ Small pot paint and/or masking tape |

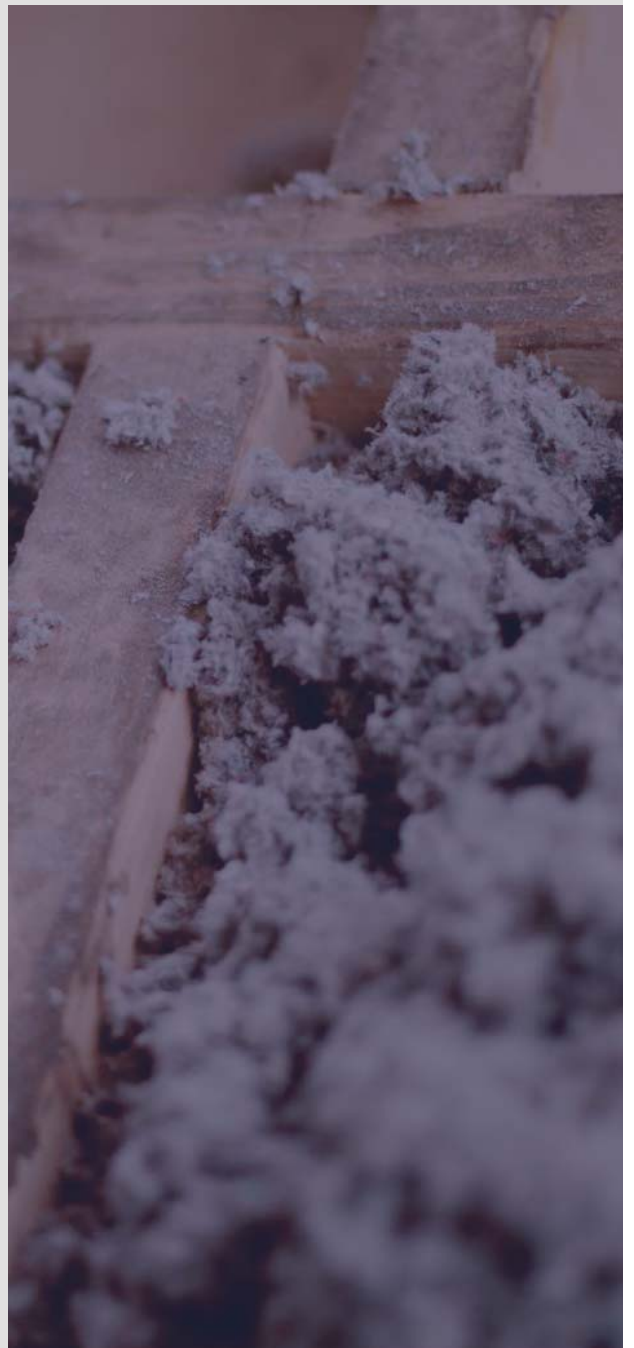


SAFETY NOTICE:

- Only you should be in the room when sampling is carried out.
- Do not disturb the material any more than is required to take a small sample.
- If the material is insulation or sprayed coating then you **MUST NOT** take the samples yourself.
- Check you have all the necessary equipment.

STEP 1: PREPARATION

1. Decide where the sample or samples are to be taken from.
2. Move any furniture away from the immediate area.
3. Open any windows or external doors to allow airflow into the area.
4. Place a plastic sheet on the ground below the sampling point to catch any debris that may fall.
5. For every sample you will need two small sample bags. Clearly write the sample room location and sample material description onto each bag
6. Put on the PPE. Ensure the overall is fully zipped up, the mask is pinched sealed around the nose and straps adjusted to ensure a tight fit.



STEP 2: TAKE THE SAMPLE

1. Refer to pages 7 to 9 of this guide for sampling recommendations on the size and amount required for specific types of asbestos suspect materials.
2. Spray the material to dampen it with water that has had a few drops of liquid soap added to it.
3. Take the sample using any necessary tools as required. You may find it easier to take a sample from an edge, corner or damaged area. If using pliers, place a wet wipe between the teeth of the pliers to take a piece of material then fold the wet wipe over the sample.
4. Place the sample into one of the small sample bags that you previously labelled. The bag should be pushed flat to expel the air and then fully sealed.
5. Place the bagged sample into the other small sampling bag, so that the sample is double bagged.
6. Use a wet wipe to thoroughly clean any tools used to prevent cross contamination and place this into the asbestos waste bag.
7. Any debris created in the sampling process should be wiped up with a wet wipe and placed into the asbestos waste bag (never use a standard vacuum to clean up asbestos dust and debris).
8. Repeat these steps for any other sample locations.
9. Fold over the plastic sheet used below the sampling locations and place this into the asbestos waste bag along with the overall, gloves and mask.
10. Wash your hands.



It is important to seal all the sample locations with tape or paint to prevent further fibre release.

The asbestos waste bag should be sealed with tape. If the samples are taken from a residential house the waste can be disposed of any local council waste disposal site with an appropriate asbestos skip (they may charge a small fee and we recommend calling ahead first to check). If taken on a commercial basis then your local waste site will not take the waste bag and we recommend calling a local asbestos removal contractor to provide a quotation to pick up the bag or drop it off to them for disposal.

If you have any issues disposing of the waste bag please call us for advice.

STEP 3: SEND THE SAMPLE

1. Once all the samples have been taken, labelled and double bagged. Place them all together into the larger sample bag. The bag should be pushed flat to expel the air and then fully sealed.
2. Fill out the enclosed Asbestos Sample Analysis Booking Form.
3. Place the completed form and samples into the pre-paid returns envelope fold over and fully seal.
4. Post your parcel in the post box or at the post office.

! Do not send the red or clear waste sacks.

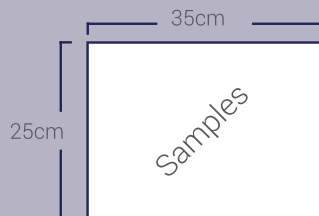
! It is important that the total package size does not exceed these measurements:

Length: 35cm

Width: 25cm

Depth: 2.5cm

Weight: 500 grams



In the event that the package exceeds these measurements you will need to apply additional postage before sending. Alternatively, if you require a guaranteed or tracked delivery service, you may wish to take the parcel to the post office.

Declare the contents as 'Samples'.

! Incorrectly applied postage may cause delay in your sample reaching us.

STEP 4: RECEIVING THE RESULTS

1. We will email you to let you know when your sample arrives with us.
2. The sample will be analysed at a UKAS accredited laboratory.
3. A PDF Fibre Identification Certificate will be emailed to the address you provided on the completed Asbestos Sample Analysis Booking Form.

! Please allow 2 working days once your samples have been received by us until you receive the results certificate (the laboratory hours are Mon-Fri, 9am – 5pm).

! Delays in receiving your results may occur if the samples are packaged incorrectly or information on the booking form is missing.



✓ CHECKLIST PRIOR TO SENDING SAMPLES:

- Samples are double bagged, labelled and sealed
- All bagged samples sealed into the larger outer bag
- Form fully completed and enclosed
- Package size is within the measurement guidelines

Please note: Samples should not be sent back in the large clear or red waste bags. Please use only the small zip seal bags to return your samples.

TYPICAL ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIALS, LOCATIONS AND SAMPLING RECOMMENDATIONS

Textured Coating:

Often called by one of its more common trade names 'Artex', textured coating is a decorative plaster finish applied to walls and ceilings. The material contains a small amount of Chrysotile (white) asbestos and is a relatively low risk material. Asbestos was used in this material up to the mid 1980s but could be found in textured coating applied later than this from left over stock.

To take a sample the sampling bag should be held immediately below the sampling point and a sharp chisel should be used to carefully scrape approx 20 sq. cm* of material from 3 areas of the chosen wall or ceiling into one sample bag (the low quantity of asbestos fibres in the material can be missed if sampled from just 1 area).

*** Note, each of the 3 sampling points would need to be about 3-4 cm long if your chisel is around 2 cm wide.**

Recommended 1 sample taken per room or per texture finish.

Asbestos Cement:

Asbestos cement was used in various applications but mostly externally as a waterproof roofing, board or cladding. Applications include corrugated roof and wall panels, soffit and fascia boards, roof tile under cloak, guttering, downpipes, water tanks, bath panels, general building board. Cement contains usually around 15-20% Chrysotile (white) asbestos bound into a cement matrix and is a relatively low risk material. Cement can also occasionally contain a trace of blue (Crocidolite) asbestos. Asbestos was used in this material up until 1999 when use of all asbestos containing materials was banned in the UK.

To take a sample wrap a wet wipe around the corner of a sheet (or edge/end of gutter or down pipe) and use pliers around the outside of the wet wipe (so the teeth of the pliers do not come into contact with the cement) and break off about 5 sq. cm and fold it straight into the wet wipe.

Recommended 1 sample per material type per building or part building.

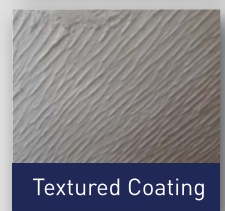
Please note: Samples should not be collected from roofs without special safety precautions to prevent falls through fragile sheets.



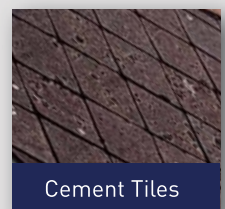
Artex



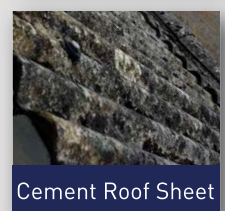
Textured Coating



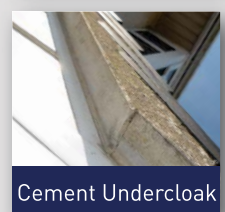
Textured Coating



Cement Tiles



Cement Roof Sheet



Cement Undercloak

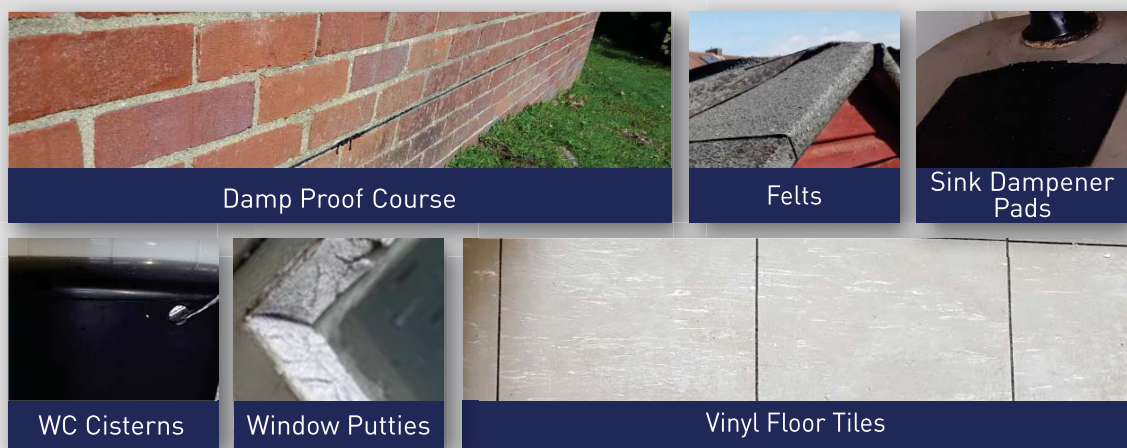
Composite Materials:

Composites are generally low risk materials which contain a small amount of Chrysotile (white) asbestos. Asbestos was used in composites in the UK up until 1999.

To take a sample use a sharp knife, pliers or hammer and chisel to break off about 1 sq. cm of material.

Recommended 1 sample per material type per building or part building.

In the case of floor tiles, one of each colour should be sampled. Composite samples fibre release is likely to be very low unless the asbestos is present as a lining or backing material.



Textiles, Ropes and Gaskets:

Textiles, ropes and gaskets typically contain high (up to 100%) amounts of white (Chrysotile) asbestos. They are a higher risk material when disturbed due to the higher amount of asbestos.

To take a sample wet the item to be sampled with a spray bottle (Warning: electrics must be isolated to electrical boxes if sampling flash guards). Use a sharp knife to cut off about 1 sq. cm of material.

Flash guards can be removed whole. Use a clean wet wipe to thoroughly clean tools between and after each sample to prevent cross contamination.

Recommended 1 sample per material type per building or part building.

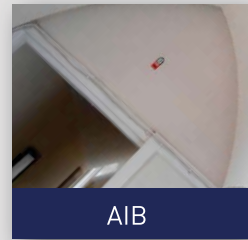


Asbestos Insulation Board (AIB)

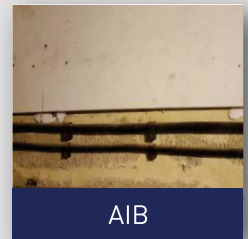
AIB was used predominantly as a fire proofing board so is typically located in areas where fire protection is required, e.g. stairwells, fire breaks within voids and risers, fire doors, header panels and surrounds, party walls, ceilings above kitchens and boiler rooms, boxings and soffit panels.

It was also sometimes used as a general building board so could be found anywhere! AIB typically contains around 20 - 25% brown (Amosite) asbestos, but can also contain white (Chrysotile), rarely blue (Crocidolite), or a mixture of the three. AIB was used up until 1985 when it was replaced by non asbestos fire rated boards such as Supalux and fire rated plasterboard.

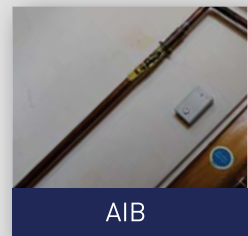
To take a sample wet the material with a spray bottle. Materials such as ceiling tiles or wall panels should be inspected for areas of existing damage, where a sample can be collected more easily. Otherwise, a small sample should be taken from a discrete location at the corner or edge of the panel, with a sharp knife or chisel blade to lever off a sample. Make sure that any paper, on one or both sides, is included.



AIB



AIB



AIB



NOT SAFE TO SAMPLE!

Please note these are high risk materials and we do not recommend you sample these yourselves.



Formed Asbestos Insulation / lagging



Loose Asbestos Insulation



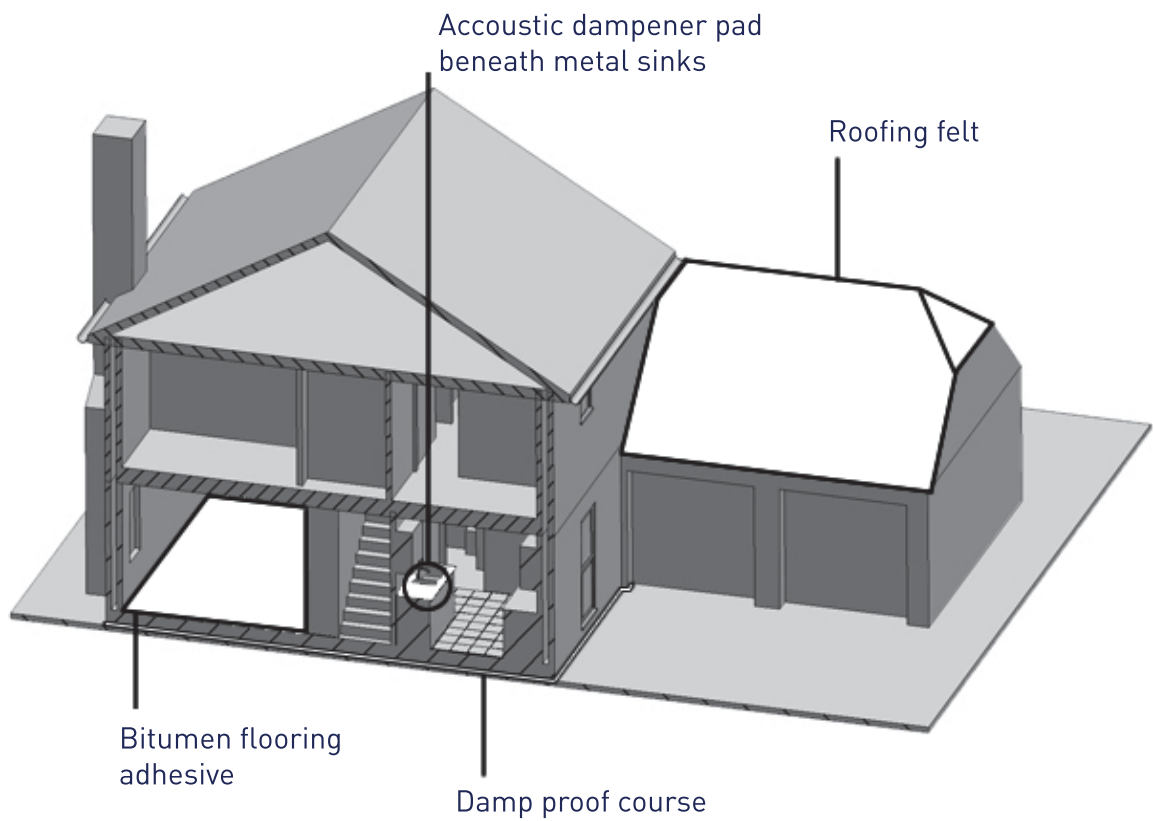
Sprayed Asbestos Insulation

CONTACT US FOR SAFE SAMPLING:

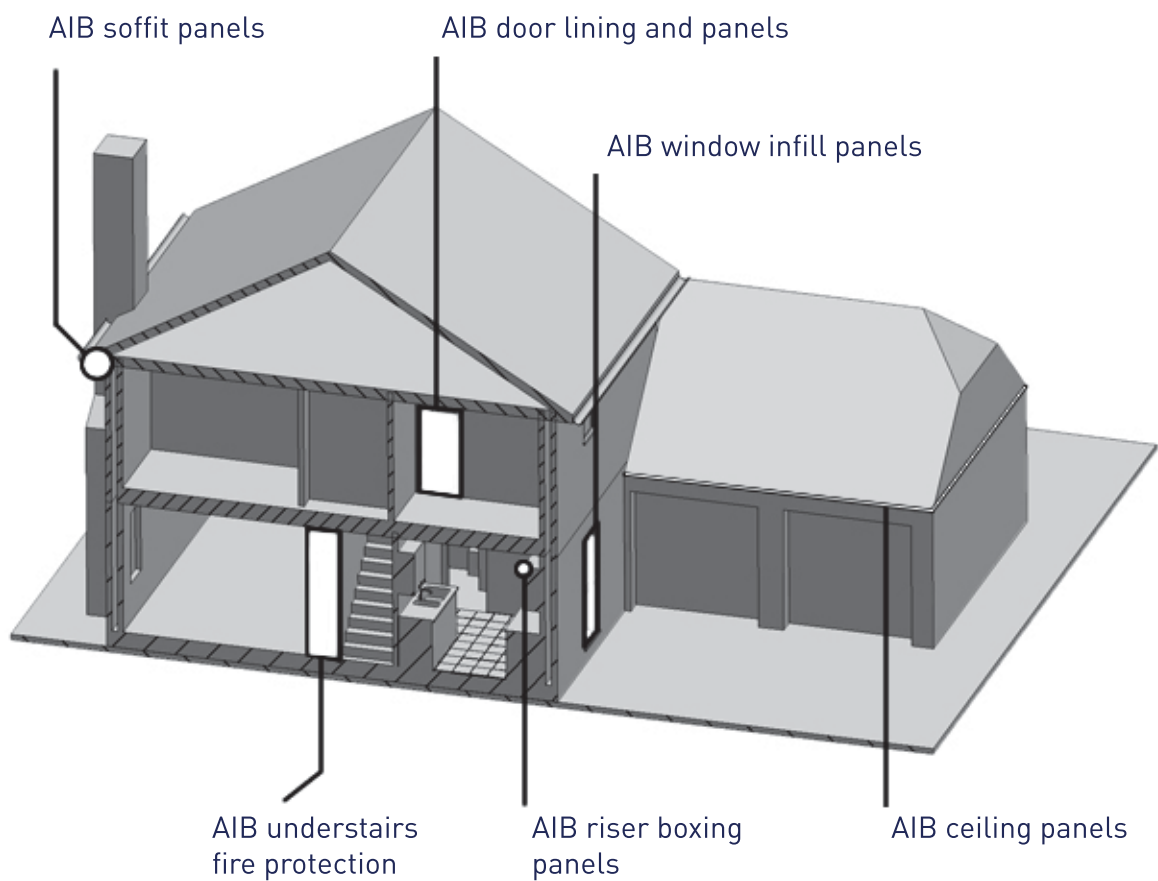
Call: 03303 200 746

Email: samples@artisanenvironmental.co.uk

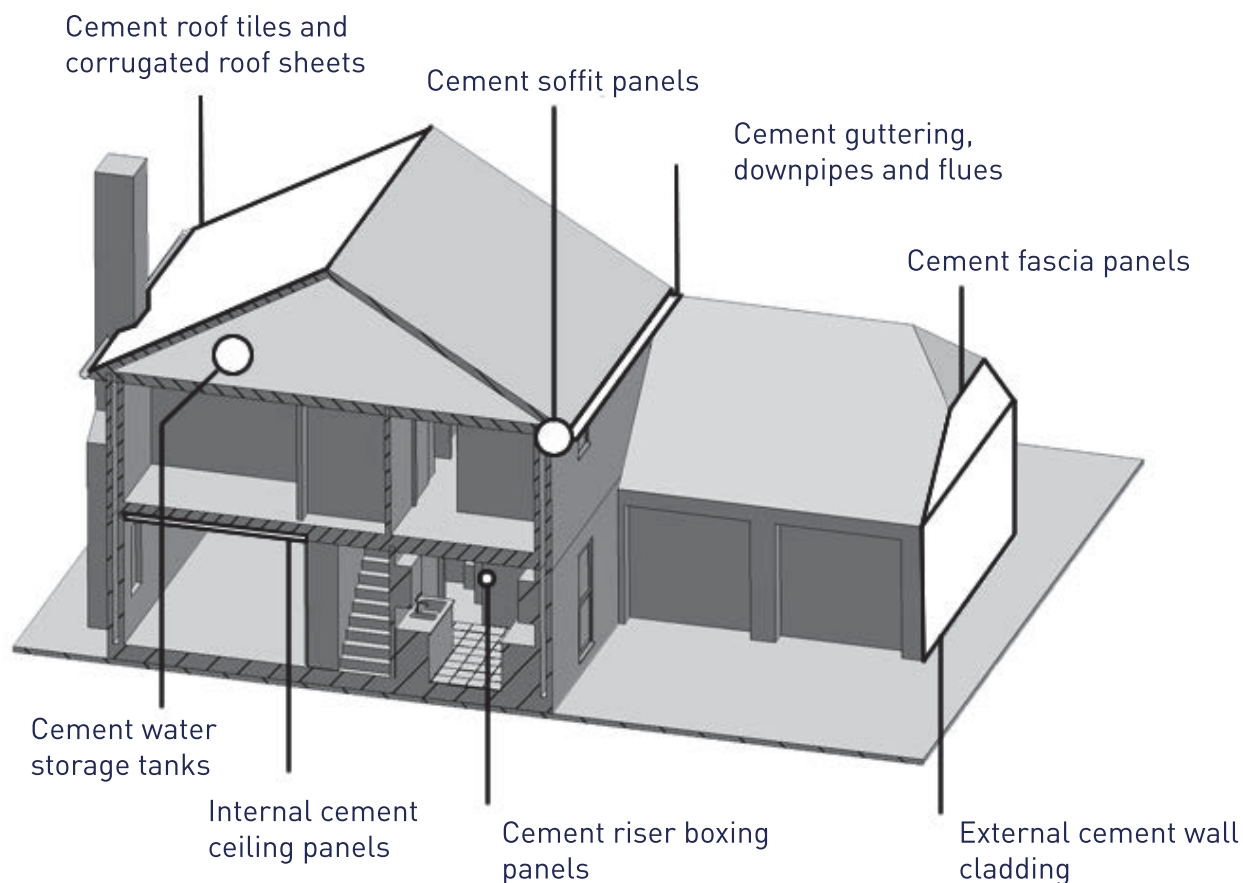
Asbestos Bitumen Products



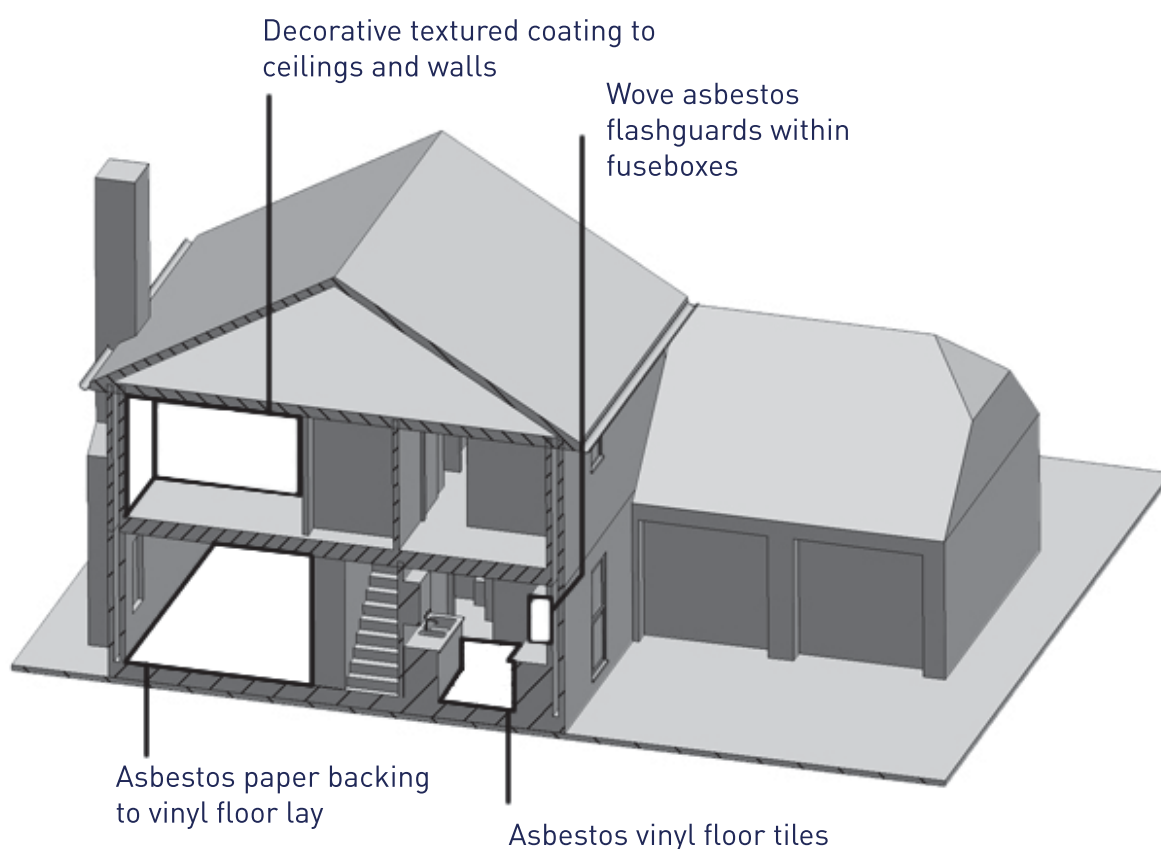
Asbestos Insulation Board (AIB) Products



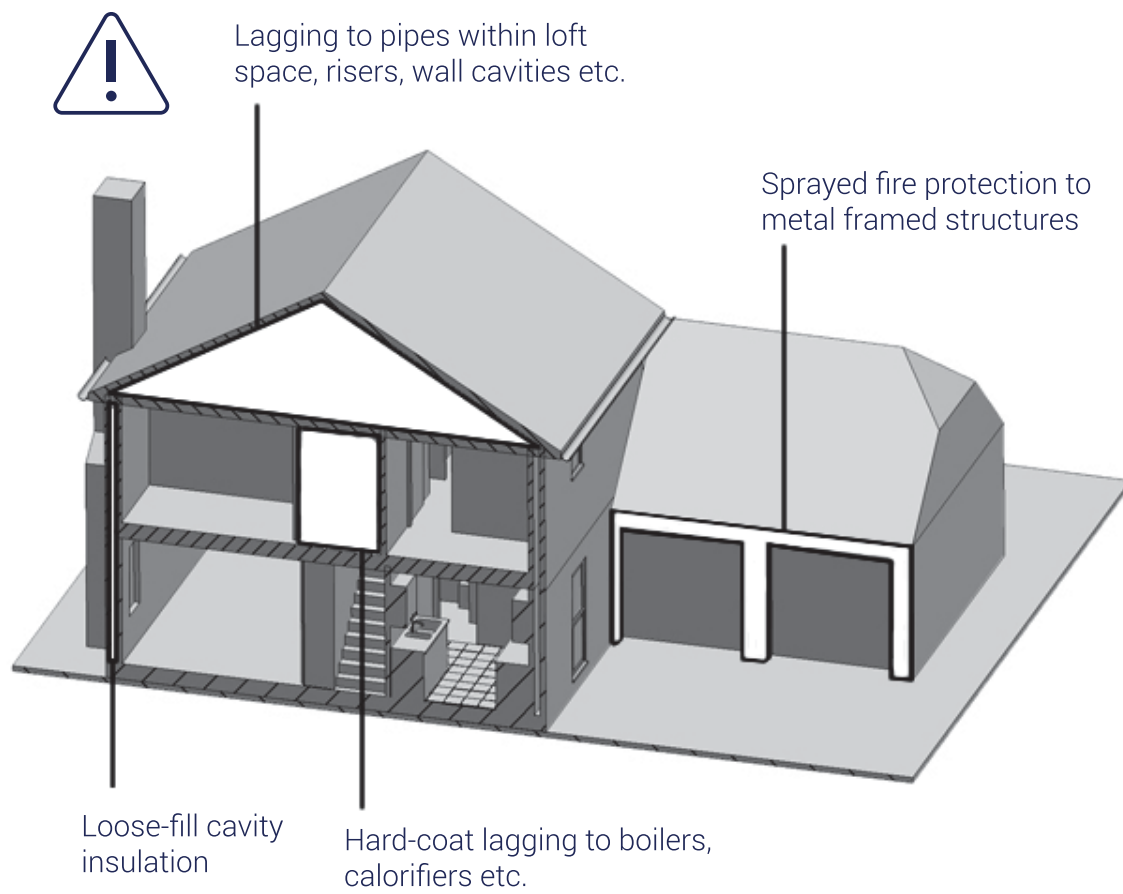
Asbestos Cement Products



Other Common Asbestos Products



Asbestos Insulation and Lagging Products - NOT SAFE TO SAMPLE



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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This kit and contents are to enable you to take samples for effective laboratory analysis only. By following the guidelines your risk of exposure are minimal, however Artisan Environmental accept no liability for potential exposure to asbestos fibres caused by using sampling methods or safety equipment not provided within this kit and instructions.

RETURNS

We believe that you will be delighted with this kit but there may be occasions where you feel it necessary to return an item.

Please inspect your kit on receipt and if for any reason you need to return it, then you have 14 days from the date of dispatch to do so. Please contact us as soon as possible. The kit must be returned unused, and in original unopened packaging. We are happy to offer exchange or full refund less packaging and delivery costs (if applicable) to the original payment method.

If you wish to return an item please notify us immediately via email at: samples@artisanenvironmental.co.uk and include the following information:

Customer name | Customer Address | Contact telephone number/email address | Order number.

We will respond to all return requests as soon as practically possible. We aim to reply to all messages within 48 hours of their receipt, excluding weekends and bank holidays.

You will be responsible for the returned Products until they reach us. Please obtain a certificate of posting (free of charge from the post office) as proof in the unlikely event that the item goes astray. We are not able to cover or refund return postage costs. No liability can be accepted for costs caused by late deliveries, or for any other reason.

These terms do not affect your statutory rights.

WHAT DO I DO IF ASBESTOS IS FOUND?

Firstly, do not worry. There are a number of ways that asbestos can be safely managed, depending on the type, level and condition that is found.

If you require identified asbestos to be removed we recommend you do not carry out this work yourself.

Asbestos removal should only be carried out by a trained and competent persons following a suitable HSE guidance.'

If you require any help or advice upon receiving your results please refer to our FAQs section or contact us:

Call: **03300 200 746**

Email: **samples@artisanenvironmental.co.uk**

We'll be happy to help.



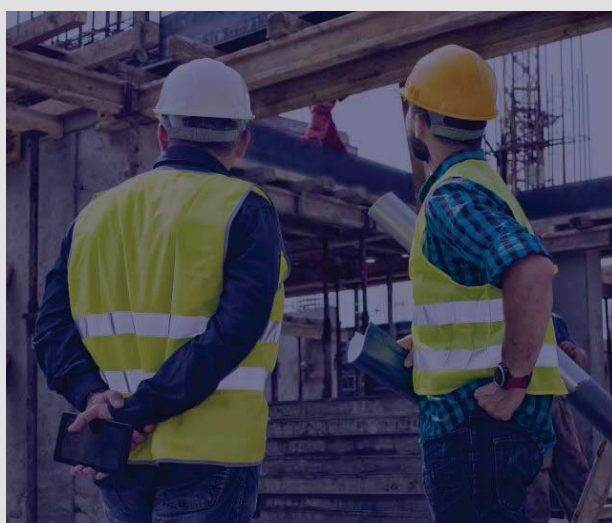
Please leave a review on Trustpilot:
Asbestos Testing: Artisan Environmental
<https://uk.trustpilot.com/review/asbestos-testing-uk.com>



OTHER SERVICES AVAILABLE

Artisan Environmental help with a range of specialist services for property owners and managers, developers and property professionals.

Our services address specific needs of commercial and residential property owners and occupiers to ensure safety and compliance at all stages of the property lifecycle.



Visit our website for more information:
www.artisanenvironmental.co.uk



VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR OUR FULL RANGE OF SERVICES



Asbestos Awareness Training



**Non-Licensed Asbestos Works
Training**



Asbestos Air Testing



**Contaminants Testing
(For example. Lead in paint)**



**Soil and Water Sampling
Analysis**



Contaminants and Toxins



Legionella Water Testing

