



# Our Asbestos Heritage

Information for heritage workers,  
vintage collectors and property  
renovators



A Derbyshire Asbestos Support Team Project  
Registered Charity 119684



# Asbestos

- Was used heavily throughout the UK during the 20th Century
- Is still present in the fabric of old buildings-both domestic properties and public buildings
- Is still present in vintage household items and other artefacts
- Those working with old buildings or vintage objects need to be vigilant
- Just low level exposure to the dust can still cause Mesothelioma, an aggressive cancer. Prolonged exposure can cause asbestosis.

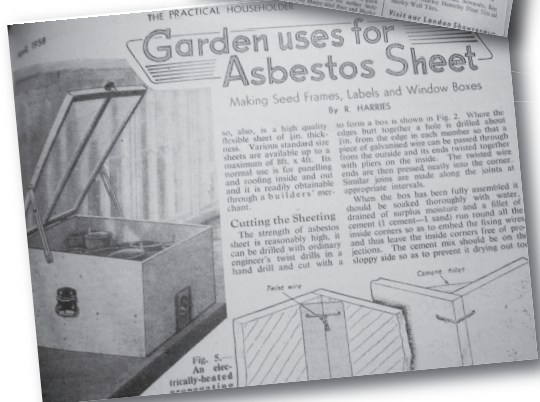
## THERE IS NO “SAFE” ASBESTOS!

### Old age does not mean it has lost its power to kill

***"No-one said it was dangerous. My father worked in the same place and he died but I never put two and two together. I thought it was a good place to work."***

***"Very few people that I worked with have survived to retirement."***

**In 2013, more than two and a half thousand UK residents died of Mesothelioma.**



## Asbestos in Houses and Buildings

- Artex ceilings and ceiling tiles
- Floor tiles
- Fire places
- Fuse boxes
- Boilers
- Lagging and insulation
- Guttering, soffits and downpipes
- Shed/garage roofing



## Asbestos in Vintage Artefacts

- Ironing boards
- Talcum powder tins
- World War Two gas masks
- Oven gloves
- Fire surrounds
- Caravans
- Vintage car brake and clutch fittings
- Oven door seals



## What to do if you find asbestos

Refer to your local council waste disposal site for portable objects. Usually they will ask for it to be double wrapped in plastic.

If you suspect asbestos in a residential building, generally it is only a risk if you disturb or damage it and cause fibres to be released into the air. If asbestos-containing materials are in good condition and in a position where they are not going to be disturbed or damaged then it may be safer to leave them where they are and ensure that any risks are properly managed. Seek professional advice if it needs to be moved-contact the HSE for a list of licenced contractors. The HSE also have a section on their website dedicated to dealing with asbestos.

Derbyshire Asbestos Support Team have produced an interactive programme for the DIY enthusiast called Asbestos in the Home. There is a sister programme for school staff called Asbestos in Schools.

**Visit [www.asbestosupport.co.uk](http://www.asbestosupport.co.uk)**

**Visit [www.asbestosheritage.co.uk](http://www.asbestosheritage.co.uk) to view the results of our heritage project.**

## About Derbyshire Asbestos Support Team

Derbyshire Asbestos Support Team support any East Midlands resident that has been diagnosed with an asbestos related disease.

### We provide:

- Advice on benefit and compensation entitlements
- Opportunities for people to find information and mutual support at events
- Bereavement support
- Campaigning and awareness drives



[www.asbestossupport.co.uk](http://www.asbestossupport.co.uk)

**Tel: 01246 380415**

## The 'Our Asbestos Heritage' project is funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The project aims to collect information on historic asbestos use in order to raise awareness of this substance and of the dangers that it still poses.

Visit the website: [www.asbestosheritage.co.uk](http://www.asbestosheritage.co.uk)

Twitter: @BewareAsbestos

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AsbestosHeritage/>

