

PROTECT YOUR HOME

[YOUR HOME](#) >> [WHAT TO KNOW](#) >> [FOR DO-IT-YOURSELFERS](#)

[BACK](#) <

PRINT

For Do-it-yourselfers

Whether you are renovating, repairing or painting, there are important safeguards to spreading throughout your home:

- Cover floors with plastic sheeting.
- Remove all furniture, area rugs, curtains, food, clothing and other household items until cleanup is complete.
- Items that cannot be removed from the work area should be tightly wrapped with plastic sheeting and sealed with tape.
- Turn off all forced-air heating and air-conditioning systems. Cover vents with plastic sheeting and secure the sheeting in place with tape.
- Ensure that all windows in the work area remain closed. If disturbing paint, when using a hand tool, spray water on lead-painted surfaces to keep dust from spreading.
- Spray the work surface with water to reduce the amount of dust generated.
- Do not use renovation methods that generate large amounts of lead-contaminated dust, such as:
 - Open flame burning or torching
 - Sanding, grinding, planing, needle gunning, or blasting with power tools and equipment not equipped with a shroud and HEPA vacuum attachment
 - Use a heat gun at temperatures greater than 1100°F
- Keep children and pets out of the work area.
- Clean up properly.
- Take off your shoes before leaving the work area.
- There is no way to eliminate dust, but some renovation methods make less dust than others. Use water to mist areas before sanding or scraping; scoring paint before separating components; and prying and pulling apart components instead of breaking them.
- The work area should be cleaned up daily to keep it as clean as possible. When all the work is done, the area must be cleaned up using special cleaning methods before taking down any plastic that isolates the work area from the rest of the home. The special cleaning methods should include
 - using a HEPA vacuum to clean up dust and debris on all surfaces, followed by wet wiping and wet mopping with plenty of rinse water. When the final cleaning is done, look around. There should be no dust, paint chips, or debris in the work area. If you see any dust, paint chips or debris, re-clean the area.

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