



**Need some  
advice about  
asbestos?  
Here's what  
you need  
to know**

We can produce information on request in large print, Braille, tape and on disk. It is also available in other languages. If you need information in any of these formats please contact us on Freephone 0800 479 7979.

如果你向我們提出要求，我們可以為你提供本資訊的其他語言的版本，或者是盲文或磁帶。如果你需要本資訊的任何一種這些版式的版本，請聯繫我們，電話號碼是 0800 479 7979

Si vous nous le demandez, nous pouvons vous remettre ces informations en d'autres langues, en braille ou sur cassette. Si vous souhaitez que ces informations vous soient fournies sous l'un de ces formats, contactez-nous en composant le 0800 479 7979.

چنانچه مایل باشید می‌توانید این مطالب را به فارسی یا زبان‌های دیگر و همچنین بریل و یا بر روی نوار کاست دریافت دارید. در صورت نیاز خواهشمندیم با شماره تلفن 0800 479 7979 با ما تماس بگیرید.

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਬੇਨਤੀ ਕਰੋ ਤਾਂ ਅਸੀਂ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ, ਬ੍ਰੇਲ (ਨੋਤਹੀਣਾ ਲਈ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ) ਵਿੱਚ, ਜਾਂ ਟੇਪ ਉੱਪਰ ਦੇ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਾਂ। ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਵਿੱਚੋਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿੱਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੋਵੇ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ 0800 479 7979 ਨੰਬਰ ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

Na Pana/Pani życzenie możemy zapewnić te informacje w innych językach, alfabetem Braille'a lub na kasecie. Jeśli chciał(a)by Pan(i) uzyskać te informacje w którejs z tych form, prosimy skontaktować się z nami pod numerem telefonu 0800 479 7979.

Haddii aad na weydiisato waxaanu warbixintan kugu siin karaa iyadoo ku qoran luuqad kale, farta ay dadka indhaha la' akhriyaan ama cajalad ku duuban. Haddii aad jeclaan lahayd in warbixintan lagugu siiyo mid ka mid ah qaababkaas, fadlan nagala soo xidhiidh telefoonka 0800 479 7979.

По вашей просьбе данная информация может быть предоставлена на других языках, шрифтом Брайля или в аудиозаписи. Если вам требуется информация в одном из этих форматов, позвоните нам по номеру 0800 479 7979.



**The comfort, safety and security of our tenants are big priorities for us, which is why we're always on hand should you need any help or advice – like with asbestos.**

**This booklet tells you everything you need to know about asbestos and what to look for, but if it hasn't answered all your questions give us a call on Freephone 0800 479 7979.**

### **Need to contact us?**

- » Call us 24/7 on **Freephone 0800 479 7979**
- » Visit your local housing office
- » Write to us at GHA Customer Service Centre, Lipton House, 170 Crown Street, Glasgow G5 9XD
- » You can also visit us online **[www.gha.org.uk](http://www.gha.org.uk)** or send an email to **[talk@gha.org.uk](mailto:talk@gha.org.uk)**

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## What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a material made up of strong fibres which are resistant to both heat and chemicals. These qualities made asbestos a popular material in the building trade and led to its use in a wide range of building products, including fireproofing. Asbestos is most likely to be found in homes built between the 1950s and early 1980s. Properties built since the mid 1980s are unlikely to contain asbestos in the fabric of the building but may contain some traces in other areas. Properties built after 1990 almost certainly do not contain asbestos anywhere in the building.

Asbestos has now been banned because it can be a danger to health.

Asbestos fibres can only be seen under a microscope. These fibres can penetrate deep into the lung and stay there. This can cause respiratory disease or some types of cancer.

It is very unlikely that the levels of asbestos fibres found in buildings will be harmful, but if you have damaged asbestos materials in your home, you should contact us immediately.

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## Where you might find asbestos products

### Asbestos is most commonly found in:

- Floor tiles
- Wall boards
- Artex (textured) ceiling finishes
- Some plaster finishes and wall boards
- Sprayed coatings to pipe work
- Lagging around pipe work and hot water cylinders
- Water tanks
- Lining boards on the back of boilers or service cupboard doors
- Inside electrical distribution boards and fuses
- Bath panels.

Asbestos products may also be found elsewhere in your home. This booklet is only a guide to some of the most common types. Contact us if you are in any doubt about asbestos in your home.

If the asbestos containing material is sealed (encapsulated) safely and is in good condition then it will not be a problem unless the sealant gets damaged. This is because asbestos is only dangerous when fibres can be released into the air.

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## Careful handling

If there are any asbestos products in your home it's important that you don't damage or disturb them in any way. If you carry out DIY on asbestos products you are putting yourself in danger.

### It is important that you:

- ▶▶ **Do not** drill a hole through any asbestos boards
- ▶▶ **Do not** cut or break off any parts of asbestos products
- ▶▶ **Do not** rub down asbestos panels, or artex, with sandpaper
- ▶▶ **Do not** use wallpaper scrapers on asbestos products
- ▶▶ **Do not** remove asbestos panels to gain access to services.

**Remember:** cutting asbestos with electrical tools or breaking asbestos products with a hammer is extremely dangerous and must be avoided.

If you are not sure whether a product contains asbestos it is safest not to do anything that may damage or disturb it. In any case you should always contact GHA for permission to carry out alterations to your home. We will be able to tell you whether there is any asbestos in your home when we visit.

### Be wise, be safe

Before carrying out any  
DIY look to see if the area  
could contain asbestos  
or call us on **Freephone**  
**0800 479 7979**

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## What are we doing about asbestos?

### As part of our commitment to you:

- ▶▶ We have an asbestos manager and six asbestos officers working to help you
- ▶▶ We aim to ensure that all materials containing asbestos are effectively managed and risk to our tenants is reduced to its lowest practical level.

If necessary, we will carry out a survey to find out whether there are any materials that contain asbestos in your home and, if so, what condition they are in. If any are in a dangerous condition we will arrange for them to be encapsulated or removed as soon as possible. However, materials that are not in a dangerous condition will not always be removed. This is because it is very disruptive and is not a risk. We will therefore endeavour to do any required work on asbestos when properties are empty or at the same time as when other major works are being carried out.

Please be aware that this leaflet is only a guide to some of the most common types and other everyday items may contain asbestos fibres.

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## Would you like more information?

Freephone: 0800 479 7979

Email: [talk@gha.org.uk](mailto:talk@gha.org.uk)

Visit: [www.gha.org.uk](http://www.gha.org.uk)

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