em9 asbestos essentials

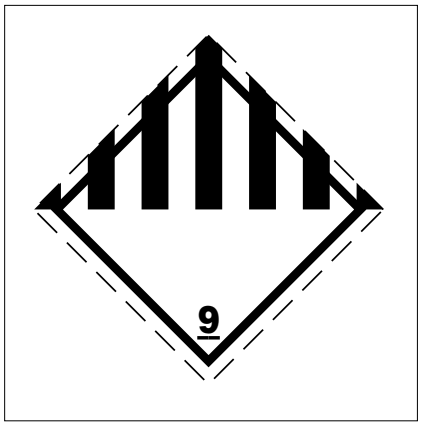
Non-licensed tasks

This information will help employers and the self-employed to comply with the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2006.

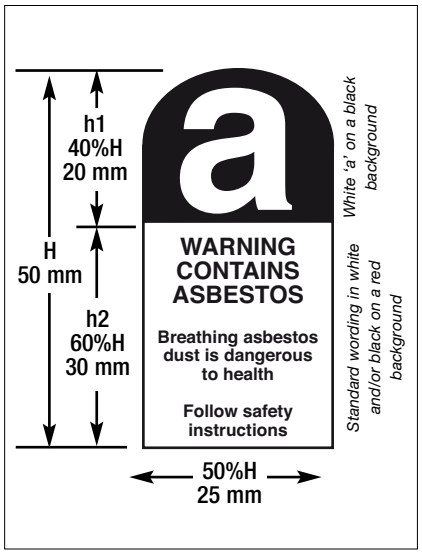
It is also useful for trade union and employee safety representatives.

Remember:

- **Asbestos fibres can cause lung cancer and lung diseases.**



Vehicle placard



Asbestos warning sign

Disposal of asbestos waste

Equipment and method sheet

What this sheet covers

This sheet describes good practice when you need dispose of asbestos waste.

Any asbestos product or material that is ready for disposal is defined as asbestos waste. Asbestos waste also includes contaminated building materials, tools that cannot be decontaminated, personal protective equipment and damp rags used for cleaning. If in doubt, always treat waste as 'Hazardous' or 'Special'. See the table for more details.

You can discharge waste water that may be contaminated with traces of asbestos to the sewage system.

England and Wales	■ Asbestos waste is 'Hazardous Waste' when it contains more than 0.1% asbestos. ■ The Hazardous Waste Regulations apply. Complete a Waste Consignment Note. ■ Contact the Environment Agency for more information.
Scotland	■ Asbestos waste is 'Special Waste' when it contains more than 0.1% asbestos. ■ The Special Waste Amendment (Scotland) Regulations apply. Complete a Waste Consignment Note. ■ Contact the Scottish Environment Protection Agency for more information.
England, Scotland and Wales	■ All asbestos waste is subject to Schedule 2 of the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2006 and most waste is subject to the Carriage of Dangerous Goods (etc) Regulations 2004 (CDG). ■ Firmly-bound asbestos - asbestos cement and articles with asbestos reinforcement - does not release hazardous or respirable fibres easily. CDG does not apply. ■ The Carriage of Dangerous Goods (etc) Regulations 2004 (CDG) applies for all other asbestos waste. See 'More help'.
Caution: Don't mix asbestos waste with other waste to get below 0.1%.	

- Waste must be packed in UN-approved packaging with a CDG hazard sign and asbestos code information visible.
- Double-wrap and label asbestos waste. Standard practice is to use a red inner bag with asbestos warnings, and a clear outer bag with the CDG sign.

Caution: Don't overfill bags. Beware sharp objects that could puncture plastic.

MORE HELP

- **Licensed asbestos contractors, and training providers** - HSE's Infoline Tel: 0845 345 0055 Textphone: 0845 408 9577 e-mail: hse.infoline@natbrit.com and at www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/licensing/index.htm
- **HSE priced and free publications** - HSE Books Tel: 01787 881165 and at www.hsebooks.co.uk
- **Disposal of asbestos waste** - www.environment-agency.co.uk, www.sepa.org.uk/, or www.netregs.gov.uk/netregs
- **Waste duty of care** - www.defra.gov.uk/environment/waste/legislation/duty.htm
- **Carriage of Dangerous Goods** - www.hse.gov.uk/cdg/manual/commonprobs.htm
- These equipment and method sheets and task (a) sheets can be downloaded free from www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/essentials/index.htm
- See sheet a0 for details of more guidance

This guidance is issued by the Health and Safety Executive. Following the guidance is not compulsory and you are free to take other action. But if you do follow the guidance you will normally be doing enough to comply with the law. Health and safety inspectors seek to secure compliance with the law and may refer to this guidance as illustrating good practice.

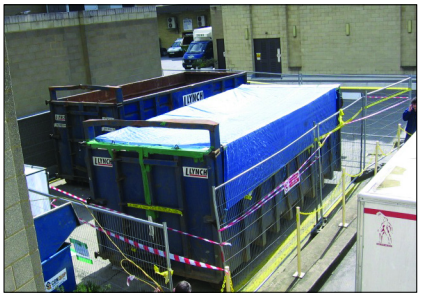
- If you carry waste, use a sealed skip, or a vehicle with the following:
  - segregated compartment for asbestos;
  - easily cleanable; and
  - lockable.
- Otherwise, arrange for transport by a registered waste carrier.
- Safe disposal - at a licensed disposal site.
- Complete a Waste Consignment Note. Keep copies of these documents for three years.

Further information

- *Asbestos: The licensed contractors' guide* HSG247 HSE Books 2006 ISBN 978 0 7176 2874 2

All waste should be double-bagged or double-wrapped in plastic sheeting, with the correct hazard warning signs attached.

Use a lockable skip for asbestos cement sheet



It is not good enough to throw sheeting over a standard skip

This document is available at www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/essentials/index.htm

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Published by the Health and Safety Executive 12/07