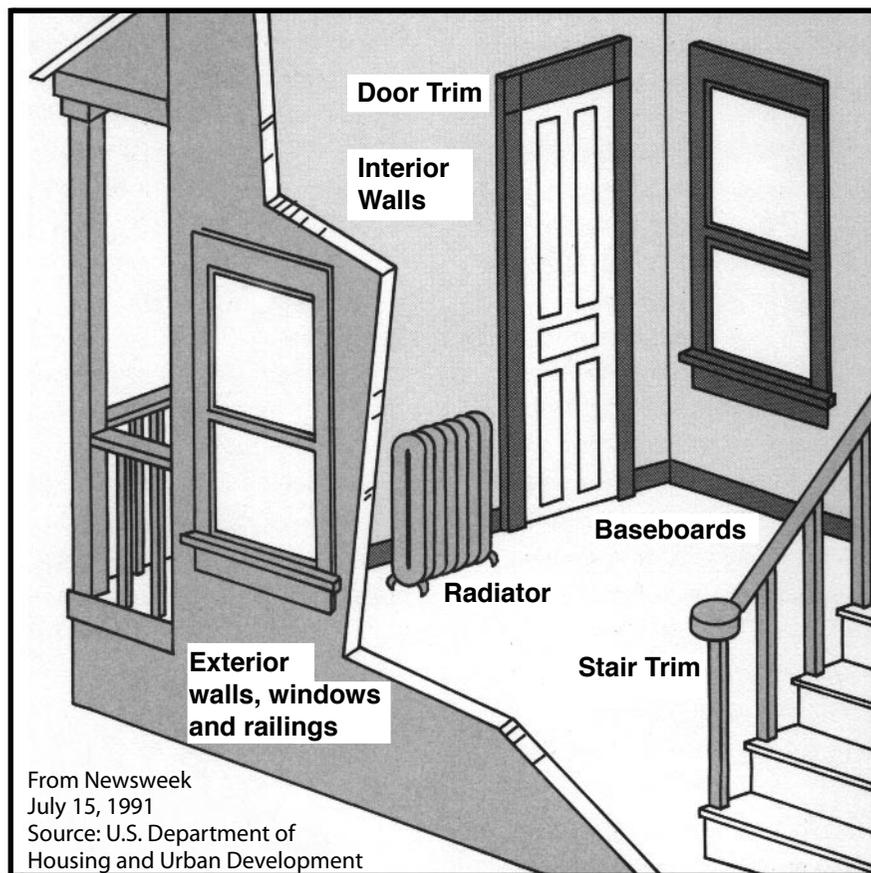


WHERE LEAD IS FOUND

Lead paint can be a serious threat to your family's health. It may be found on both the inside and outside of your home. When you open and close doors and windows covered in leaded paint, lead dust is created. This can be breathed in or get on a person's hands, then into the mouth and be swallowed. If the paint is not peeling or flaking, large surfaces like walls and ceilings pose less danger. The picture on this page shows you where leaded paint may be located in your home.

Very Frequently
 Frequently
 Occasionally



From Newsweek
July 15, 1991
Source: U.S. Department of
Housing and Urban Development



All children 6 months to 6 years of age should be assessed for lead poisoning at least once every year. Check with your doctor to make an appointment.

For further information, contact the Oklahoma Department of Health's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 1-800-766-2223 or the National Lead Information Center Hotline at 1-800-424-5323.



Adapted from
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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

The Lead Prevention brochure, is issued by the Oklahoma State Department of Health, as authorized by James Michael Crutcher, M.D., Secretary of Health, Commissioner of Health, Oklahoma State Department of Health. 5,000 copies were printed by ? in of 2007 at a cost of \$?. Copies have been deposited with the Publications Clearinghouse of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries.



RENOVATION:

How to
safely remove
old paint

RENOVATION

How to safely remove

Lead-based paint danger

Many Oklahoma homes built before 1978 were painted with lead-based paint. Remodeling a house covered in lead paint will create dust and paint chips that can cause lead poisoning if inhaled or ingested.

Childhood lead poisoning usually occurs when a child eats lead paint chips or dust, or breathes in lead dust. Lead poisoning is a very serious child health problem! All children are at risk, whether they live in large cities or in the country. Sources of lead can be found everywhere.

Children who are 6 months to 6 years of age are at greatest risk for lead poisoning. Young children put many things in their mouths, and some of these things could contain lead. Lead is especially bad for infants and children because their bodies absorb lead so easily. Lead poisoning can slow a child's development and cause learning and behavior problems. Lead can also harm pregnant women and their unborn children.

If you plan to remodel or renovate your home, take precautions to work "lead safe" if your house was built before 1978.

The only way to find out for sure if your home contains lead paint is to have an inspection. For a list of certified lead inspectors in your area, contact the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality's Lead Based Paint Program at 1-405-702-4100.

Be alert to the dangers of removing old paint

To protect your family from lead during remodeling:

- DO NOT REMAIN AT HOME DURING THE RENOVATION. It is especially important that children and pregnant women the house during renovation. When work is complete, do not go back into the house and work area until it has been completely and correctly cleaned (do not live in.)
- Only properly protected workers should enter the work area.
- If you hire contractors, make sure they understand the causes of lead poisoning and how to stay safe.
- If you must do the work yourself, follow the safety tips outlined in this pamphlet. Additional guidance may be obtained by calling the Oklahoma State Department of Health's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 1-800-766-2223 for information about how to safely remove lead paint.

Safety tips

- Protect all of your food appliances (like toasters), cooking and eating utensils (like forks and spoons), furniture, bedding, toys, and clothes from the lead dust. Take these things out of the work area, or cover them in plastic and seal them up tightly.
- Do not eat or smoke in the work area. Lead dust could get on your hands and clothes, then in your mouth.
- Place a damp floor mat outside the work area to collect dust and paint chips from the bottom of shoes.
- Even removing wallpaper or loose plaster can create lead dust. To clean up, use a clean cloth or mop dampened with an all-purpose cleaner or a cleaner made specifically for lead. Do not vacuum dust or paint chips with a home vacuum. Vacuuming may stir up dust in the air, and spread the lead contamination to other parts of the house.
- Wash work clothes and clean-up rags separately from your other laundry.
- Hang plastic sheeting in door ways to work areas to keep lead dust contained.

What about remodeling the outside of my house?

- When removing paint from the outside of your house, seal the windows and vents so dust cannot get inside the house.
- Remove shoes before going into the house.
- Do not walk around clean areas of the house in dirty work clothes.
- To remove paint chips and dust from around the outside of the house, dampen porches, sidewalks and driveways with water then sweep debris into a plastic bag. Dampen the sides of buildings and scrub with a stiff brush. DO NOT POWER WASH. Collect paint chips in a plastic bag and tie it before disposing of the bag. Use disposable gloves to pick up and get rid of paint chips.



Screening for lead poisoning

Have family members, especially pregnant women and children 6 months to 6 years of age, tested for lead poisoning by your doctor or clinic.

A child may have lead poisoning but not look or act sick. Or a child may have symptoms like those of a cold or the flu. The only way to find lead poisoning early is to take your child to your local clinic or to your doctor and have a simple blood test.

For information on lead poisoning, contact the Oklahoma State Department of Health's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 1-800-766-2223 or the **National Lead Information Center Hotline at 1-800-424-5323.**

