



# FACT SHEET

## How do I Safely Set Up to Work on Exterior and Interior Lead Projects? Proper Methods for Setting up to Work Outside and Inside

If your home was built before 1978 and you are remodeling or renovating, be aware that both exterior and interior projects can produce dust, paint chips, larger pieces of material, and liquids that could contain lead. In order to keep lead hazards to a minimum, use the following guidelines when setting up your work areas.

TYPE of PROJECT	GUIDELINES
Exterior (such as Board Replacement and Painting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cover the ground, sandboxes, and any flowers or plants with 6 mil polyethylene plastic sheeting (6 mil) to catch dust and trash.</li> <li>• Extend the 6 mil at least 5 feet from the base of the house and an additional 3 feet from each story.</li> <li>• Use bricks or rocks to hold the edges of the 6 mil in place.</li> <li>• Place wood studs under the edges of the sheeting to block liquid from escaping.</li> <li>• Avoid working in windy conditions (winds greater than 15 mph).</li> <li>• If possible, move play equipment at least 20 feet away from the work area.</li> <li>• Close all windows and doors.</li> <li>• Remove personal belongings from the area before starting work.</li> </ul>
Interior (such as Sanding, Baseboard Replacement, Cabinet Removal, and Painting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close off the work area by covering entryways and all items that can not be removed from the home with 6 mil and sealing with duct tape.</li> <li>• If necessary, leave windows open for proper ventilation.</li> <li>• Remove furniture, area rugs, curtains, food, clothing and other household items until cleanup is complete.</li> <li>• Turn off forced-air heating and air conditioning systems.</li> <li>• Cover heating and air conditioning vents with a layer of 6 mil, and tape in place with duct tape.</li> <li>• Cover openings such as gaps around pipes and between floor boards, with 6 mil or duct tape.</li> <li>• Cover exposed surfaces that cannot be removed, such as floors, carpeting, counter-tops, and shelves with 6 mil.</li> <li>• Tape around the door seals of refrigerators to prevent food contamination.</li> </ul>
Carpet Removal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mist the entire surface of the carpet to reduce dust.</li> <li>• Roll carpet inward.</li> <li>• Wrap carpet and pad in 6 mil, and tape seams closed with duct tape.</li> <li>• Vacuum floor with a HEPA filter-equipped vacuum cleaner after the carpet is wrapped before you remove.</li> <li>• HEPA vacuum the floor after you remove the carpet.</li> </ul>
Replacing or Working on Windows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working from Inside- seal off the work area by covering entryways with 6 mil.</li> <li>• Working from Outside - tape 6 mil over the entire inside window opening.</li> <li>• Cover the floor inside under the window with 6 mil.</li> <li>• Cover the ground outside the window.</li> <li>• Spray the window sill and frame with water to reduce dust.</li> <li>• If possible, remove the window unit from the outside.</li> <li>• Collect all of the dust and paint chips and dispose of them in a sealed plastic bag.</li> </ul>

**\*\*If you decide to hire a contractor (i.e. remodelers, home repair services), you can protect yourself, your family, and your property by ensuring that he/she follows the OSHA rule 29 CFR 1926.62, "Interim Final Rules for Lead in Construction Standard".\*\***

To obtain the EPA booklet "Reducing Lead Hazards When Remodeling Your Home", for additional information, please call the Lead Program of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division at (504) 765-2554, or write to us at LDEQ-AQCD Lead Program; P.O. Box 82135; Baton Rouge, LA 70884-2135.