

before you start

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON healthy homes

CLEANING TO CONTROL lead dust in your home



Wear old clothing
that can be washed.



DANGER!

Pregnant women must
NOT clean up lead dust.
The dust can harm the
developing baby.



Keep children away
from the cleaning area.



DO NOT smoke or eat
while cleaning.



Contact your local health department

Ohio Department of Health

1-877-LEAD-SAFE

<http://www.odh.ohio.gov>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

<http://www.epa.gov>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<http://www.cdc.gov/environmental/>

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/healthyhomes/>

National Center for Healthy Housing

<http://www.nchh.org>

Poison Control Center

1-800-222-1222

Vacuum Loaner Program

Residents can borrow vacuum cleaners
from various local and state organizations.
For more information and a list of locations, visit
<http://www.odh.ohio.gov>
(keyword search = vacuum loaner program)



Ohio Department of Health

Bureau of Child and
Family Health Services

Ohio Healthy Homes
and Lead Poisoning
Prevention Program

246 North High Street
Columbus, OH 43215
1-877-LEAD-SAFE

<http://www.odh.ohio.gov>
bcfhs@odh.ohio.gov



SUPPLIES CHECKLIST:

- Plastic or rubber gloves
- Plastic trash bags
- Lint free disposable rags
- A spray bottle filled with water
- 2 Plastic buckets or 1 divided bucket
- A mop with washable or disposable cloths
- Water and cleanser
- A HEPA vacuum - *common household vacuums will spread lead dust into the air*

PREPARE THE AREA:

- Wearing gloves, pick up large paint chips found on floors, porches, and other areas around the home
- Place the chips in a plastic bag
- Remove smaller paint chips by spraying them with water before sweeping them up with a broom. Dry sweeping will spread lead dust around
- Seal the plastic bag
- Place bag in garbage



Cleaning up lead dust is a short term safety method.

Removing the source of the lead dust is needed to keep your family safe from lead dangers.



If unable to complete a whole house cleaning, start with the danger areas in rooms where children spend time.
The most likely danger areas are windows and doors.
Careful cleaning of areas that contain lead is very important. Lead dust collects on window sills, floors, walls, and toys.

CARPETS AND VACUUMING:

Use a vacuum with true HEPA filtration. This will keep the lead dust from being released back into the air. Many local health departments or housing authorities have HEPA vacuums to loan out at no cost.



- Clean from top to bottom, vacuum furniture and drapes first
- Very slowly vacuum carpeting and area rugs
- Flip rugs over and vacuum the other side as well
- Throw rugs may be separately washed in a washing machine
- Change vacuum cleaner bags/canisters outside the home

If possible, remove carpeting. Hard floor surfaces are easier to keep clean.



Lead can easily find its way into a child's mouth through a child's normal hand-to-mouth activity such as eating, thumb sucking, chewing on toys, or books.



Pets can track in lead from outside in the yard or on the porch. It can be on their fur and paws.

WHOLE HOUSE CLEANING:

- Wear plastic or rubber gloves
- Fill one side of the two-sided bucket with water and cleanser
- Fill one side with water only
- Clean from the ceiling to the floor with rags. Start at the farthest corner of the room and work towards the door
- Wash all surfaces with the detergent
- Change detergent water and rags frequently
- Pour used water and cleanser down the toilet. Avoid throwing in sinks, bathtubs, and yards
- Mop one area in a room at a time by using cleanser water, followed by fresh rinse water
- Change both rinse and cleanser water often
- Change mop cloth with each room change

