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ASBESTOS EXPLAINED



Helpful guide on the dangers of
asbestos and why you should be
cautious

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ASEBESTOS EXPLAINED:

What is it?

Asbestos is term for a substance which is a group of minerals made of microscopic needle-like fibres.

Before being banned, it was used in buildings for insulation, flooring, ceilings and walls. Buildings constructed before 2000 may still have asbestos in them.

If that is the case and the asbestos containing materials are in-tact they pose very little to no risk. It is only when the materials are damaged or disturbed that it becomes highly dangerous as the tiny fibres can be released into the air and breathed into your lungs.



WHY WAS IT USED?

If it is so dangerous why was it used?

There are several properties that made asbestos perfect for construction:

- ❖ Strong
- ❖ Cheap
- ❖ Sound insulation
- ❖ Heat insulation
- ❖ Fire protection
- ❖ Resistant to chemicals
- ❖ Resistant to water
- ❖ Resistant to electricity

Some building products maybe contain asbestos:

- ❖ Asbestos cement
- ❖ Floor tiles
- ❖ Loose insulations
- ❖ Textured coatings
- ❖ Fire doors
- ❖ Fire blankets
- ❖ Cladding
- ❖ Toilet seat
- ❖ Insulating boards

WHY IS IT SO DANGEROUS?

Why is it so dangerous even today?

The fibres are so strong that they are impossible to be broken down by the human body, they are also so sharp they slice into the lung tissue. They get pulled deeper and deeper into the lungs with every breath.

The symptoms can take years even decades to appear meaning cases are rising from construction workers, plumber and more tradesmen who worked during the 50s-70s.

