

Asbestos Regulations

Anyone who has even the slightest chance of being exposed to asbestos fibres at work must have training; they must know where asbestos and asbestos materials are likely to be found in buildings and know how to avoid the risk of exposure.

It's your right to be protected from this dangerous substance.

Employers play an essential role in ensuring your health and safety at work, this includes a duty to prevent exposure to hazards such as asbestos; and where work requires working in buildings containing asbestos a risk assessment must be completed. Employers also have a legal duty to provide you with up-to-date information on the location and condition of any asbestos BEFORE you start work.

For domestic properties you should be told where asbestos can be found.

For non-domestic properties this information is held in the building's asbestos register which the owner or people in charge of the building will have completed. The building's asbestos register contains details such as the type of asbestos, how much there is, where it is, its condition and the risk of damage. This information must be given to anyone involved in the work. It makes sense to ask for this information if it's not offered. Don't be afraid to stop and ask if you are suspicious that something may be asbestos and you haven't been told.

You put yourself at great risk if you don't follow proper precautions.

It's your responsibility.

The Regulations

The Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012 (Part 2 General Requirements) state

“In order to manage the risk from asbestos in non-domestic premises, the dutyholder must ensure that a suitable and sufficient assessment is carried out as to whether asbestos is or is liable to be present in the premises.”

And

“In making the assessment - the condition of any asbestos which is, or has been assumed to be, present in the premises must be considered.”

The Regulations also state that if there is any doubt as to whether asbestos is present then the employer should assume that asbestos IS present.

To see the full legal document click on [The Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012](#).