EMISSION ASSESSMENTS
Asbestos Assessments

E analysis@eapl.net.au
A Unit 6, 35 Sustainable Avenue, Bibra Lake 6163
PO Box 1272, Bibra Lake DC 6965
T +61 8 9494 2958
F +61 8 9494 2959
www.emissionassessments.com.au
Emission Assessments Pty Ltd ABN 88 133 000 049

DIY Asbestos Test Kit

Taking the Sample

1. Wear disposable gloves and wash your hands after sampling
2. Put on respiratory protective equipment (PPE) – follow the fitting instructions guide
3. Wear disposable overalls if available
4. Place a plastic sheet on the floor below the area to be sampled to catch loose material that may fall off while sampling
5. To reduce the release of asbestos fibres, wet the material using a fine mist of water containing a few drops of detergent before taking the sample
6. Carefully remove a small piece from the entire depth of the material using a craft knife or pliers
7. Sample should be about the size of a $1 coin: it does not need to be any bigger than this
8. For Asbestos Cement Sheets ("fibro- cement") take the sample from a corner edge or along an existing hole or crack
9. Place sample in smaller re-sealable plastic bag and give it a unique reference (e.g. write on a number or location)
10. Each sample must be submitted in its own separate plastic bag. One sample per small sample bag – do not mix different samples in same bag
11. Place smaller, labelled bag in the larger bag (i.e. double-bag the sample)
12. Tightly seal the plastic bag after the sample is in it
13. Use a damp paper towel, rag or wet-wipe to clean up any associated material on the outside of the container or around the sample site
14. Carefully dispose of the plastic sheet and used towel, rag or wet-wipe
15. Dispose of all potentially contaminated material according to State, Territory and local procedures

Delivery

1. Complete a Chain of Custody form that can be downloaded from http://www.asbestosassessments.com.au/order-kit/asbestos-sample-analysis/
2. Place samples and completed Chain of Custody form in padded envelope addressed to Emission Assessments
3. Post envelope via Australia Post
4. Your NATA endorsed Certificate of Analysis will be emailed to you within 24 hours of receipt of your sample(s)

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Material Collection Kit – Potential Asbestos

Emission Assessments do not recommend the collection of potential asbestos-containing-material (ACM) by untrained persons. The attached instructions are supplied to outline safety precautions which are required to be undertaken, in order to minimise the exposure risk associated with do-it-yourself sample collection. All samples collected must be treated as asbestos-containing-material (ACM).

Please contact our office if you prefer an authorised person to collect your sample, or to perform a building survey or inspection.

There will be additional fees for sample collection performed by authorised personnel.

Friable and Non-Friable Asbestos

ACM are categorised as Friable or Non-Friable.

Example only : Limpet sample

Friable (when dry)

- May be crumbled, pulverised or reduced to powder by hand pressure
- As a result of a work process becomes such that it may be crumbled, pulverised or reduced to powder by hand pressure

Friable products can easily generate airborne fibres, therefore putting you at greater risk of exposure to airborne asbestos fibres.

Friable asbestos should be sampled by competent person.

Example only : Vinyl floor tile

Non-Friable (when dry)

- Cannot be crumbled, pulverised or reduced to powder by hand pressure

Non-Friable products can be sampled reasonably safely, within safety precautions

Successful analysis does not require large amounts of material to be collected. The material should not be disturbed any more than is required to take a small sample. These amounts are adequate for analysis:

- **Friable** samples - 1 teaspoon (about 5 grams)
- **Non-Friable** samples – Size of 1 dollar coin (about 25 mm x 25 mm)

Kit Contents

The **DIY Asbestos Test Kit** contains the necessary equipment to sample potential asbestos containing materials (ACM):

1. Step-By-Step Guide & Safety Instructions
2. Mask fitting instructions
3. Sealed, FFP2/3 rated, fold flat disposable face mask
4. Sample bags for collecting sample(s), one sample per bag
5. Laboratory Chain of Custody Form included to list and track your samples
6. Padded envelope to return sample(s) for analysis

Our Customer Support Team is available to provide answers to your questions and any extra support should you need it (08) 9494 2958

Prepare to take the Sample

1. Shut down heating or cooling systems to minimise the spread of released fibres
2. Turn off any fans
3. If outside, sample on a non-windy day
4. Ensure no one else is in the vicinity during sampling
5. Do not disturb the material any more than is needed to take a small sample
6. Collect the equipment you will need for sampling:
   - Craft knife, pliers, re-sealable plastic bags (e.g. zip Lock bags) plastic drop sheet, water spray bottle

Mask Fitting Instruction (Specific for mask supplied)

FITTING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Hold respirator in hand with moulded nose contour (narrow end) at fingertips. Allow head-straps to hang below hand.
2. Place respirator against your face with the nosepiece on the bridge of your nose.
3. Place the top strap high on the back of your head. Move the bottom strap over your head and position it below your ears.
4. Use both hands to mould the nose-piece to the shape of your nose for a secure, comfortable fit.
5. Test the fit. Cup both hands over respirator and exhale strongly. If airflows around the nose, tighten the nose-piece. If air escapes the around the edges, reposition the straps for a better fit.

General Safety Recommendations

Sampling of suspected friable asbestos should be left to experts and reassurance air monitoring undertaken during the sampling period.

1. Keep mask on until decontamination process has finished and place it into a labelled asbestos waste bag.

2. Never use a household vacuum to clean up asbestos dust and debris.

3. Never sample electrical backing boards due to the risk of electrocution: assume old boards contain asbestos material.

4. Use appropriate control measures to control the risk of generating airborne asbestos fibres during the sampling e.g. water spray bottle to dampen surfaces before and during sampling.

5. Follow a safe method of breaking or dislodging the sample without generating dust.

6. Decontaminate tools used to break or dislodge the sample.

7. Decontaminate the area where the sample is collected before the area is re-occupied by any person e.g. wet-wiping surfaces to clean up residual dust.

8. Follow a suitable personal decontamination process appropriate to the level of risk e.g. remove and dispose of mask into an asbestos waste bag and washing hands and face with water.