

# LEAD IN HOMES



## WHERE LEAD IS FOUND:

In general, the older your home, the more likely it has lead-based paint.

**1. PAINT.** Many homes built before 1978 have lead-based paint. The federal government banned lead-based paint from housing in 1978. Some states stopped its use even earlier.

Lead can be found:

- In homes in the city, country, or suburbs.
- In apartments, single-family homes, and both private and public housing.

**2. INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF THE HOUSE.**

**3. IN SOIL AROUND THE HOME.**

(Soil can pick up lead from exterior paint, or other sources such as past use of leaded gas in cars.)

**4. HOUSEHOLD DUST.**

(Dust can pick up lead from deteriorating lead-based paint from soil tracked into a home.)

**5. DRINKING WATER.**

Your home might have plumbing with lead or lead solder. Call your local health department or water supplier to find out about testing your water. You cannot see, smell, or taste lead, and boiling your water will not get rid of lead.

If you think your plumbing might have lead in it:

- Use only cold water for drinking and cooking.
- Run water for 15 to 30 seconds before drinking it, especially if you have not used your water for a few hours.

**6. THE JOB.**

If you work with lead, you could bring it home on your clothes. Shower and change clothes before coming home. Launder your work clothes separately from the rest of your family's clothes.

**7. PAINTED TOYS AND FURNITURE.**

**8. FOOD AND LIQUIDS** stored in lead crystal or lead-glazed pottery or porcelain.

**9. LEAD SMELTERS** or industries that release lead into the air.

**10. HOBBIES** that use lead, such as making pottery or stained glass, or refinishing furniture.

**11. FOLK REMEDIES** that contain lead, such as "greta" and "azaroon" used to treat an upset stomach.



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