

FACT SHEET

REMOVING LEAD PAINT

Adding a splash of paint is a simple way to enhance the beauty of your home. Before starting a painting project, protect yourself and your family by following the safety instructions printed on the product label.

Lead-based paint is present in many Australian homes that were built before 1960. Lead-based paint does not pose a danger if it is in good condition. However, if the paint is flaking or peeling, or if it is disturbed during renovation by sanding,

scraping, or heating, people in the home, especially children, are at risk of developing serious health problems from exposure to lead from dust or fumes.

It is important to follow special safety rules when removing lead-based paint. For example, paint strippers are the preferred method for the removal of lead-based paint. However, paint strippers can also contain hazardous chemicals and should be used carefully and according to manufacturer's instructions.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/protection/publications/lead-alert-six-step-guide-painting-your-home>

<http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/mao/leadbasedpaint.htm>

<http://www.lead.org.au/fs-index.html>