

DON'T PLAY RENOVATION ROULETTE!

ASBESTOS AWARENESSResidential Checklist



A HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE TO IDENTIFYING ASBESTOS-CONTAINING MATERIAL TO MANAGE IT SAFELY





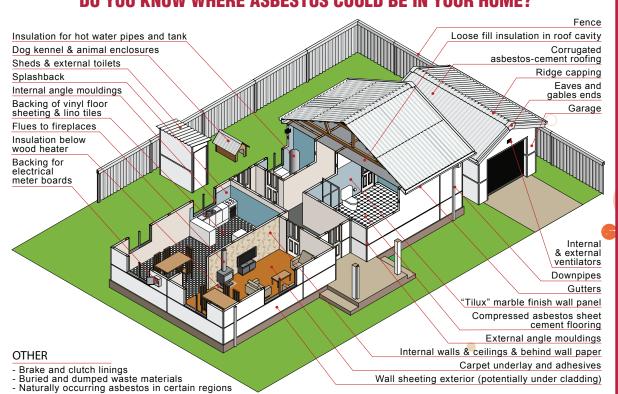






1 IN 3 AUSTRALIAN HOMES CONTAIN ASBESTOS!

DO YOU KNOW WHERE ASBESTOS COULD BE IN YOUR HOME?



ASBESTOS AWARENESS Residential Checklist

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO KEEP AN ASBESTOS AWARENESS RESIDENTIAL CHECKLIST OF WHERE ASBESTOS MIGHT BE IN YOUR HOME?

Asbestos-containing materials can be found in any Australian home built or renovated before 1990. Although asbestos was banned in Australia in 2003, thousands of different types of products remain hidden dangers in 1 in 3 homes including brick, weatherboard, fibro and clad homes — even apartments. It could be anywhere!

Without knowing where asbestos-containing products might be located or how to manage asbestos safely, Australian's risk disturbing asbestos and releasing fibres when renovating or maintaining homes.

To assist homeowners in identifying various types of asbestos-containing products and where they might be found in homes, the *Asbestos Awareness Residential Checklist* is intended for use as a **guide only**. It is a visual inspection and is not a 'formal' *Asbestos Register and Management Plan*.

HOW DANGEROUS IS ASBESTOS?

Inhaling asbestos fibres or dust can cause asbestos-related diseases including lung cancer and malignant mesothelioma. It's extremely important for all Australians to safely manage asbestos-containing materials that might be found in and around homes.

If asbestos materials are sealed, undisturbed and in good, stable condition they are unlikely to release fibres and pose a health risk. However, if these materials are disturbed or unsealed the fibres can be harmful to your health and the health of your family.









BY KEEPING AN ASBESTOS AWARENESS RESIDENTIAL CHECKLIST, HOMEOWNERS BECOME MORE AWARE OF THE POSSIBLE LOCATIONS WHERE ASBESTOS MIGHT BE FOUND SO THEY CAN:

- Better understand the types of asbestos-containing products that may be in homes;
- Better monitor these products to ensure they remain sealed and in good condition;
- Avoid disturbing products when maintaining or renovating homes; AND,
- Provide tradespeople with a list of possible locations when planning home renovations before work commences to ensure asbestos is managed safely.













THINKING OF RENOVATING? YOU MUST DO A RESIDENTIAL CHECKLIST TO PROTECT YOU & YOUR FAMILY!

PLAY RENOVATION ROULETTE!

ARE HOMEOWNERS REQUIRED TO KEEP AN ASBESTOS REGISTER AND MANAGEMENT PLAN?

Homeowners are not required to keep and maintain an 'Asbestos Register and Management Plan' for their property. However, on worksites, it's compulsory to develop an 'Asbestos Register and Management Plan' ensuring asbestos is identified and managed and/or removed according to health and safety regulations.

Some homes undergoing renovations may be considered a 'worksite'. Check with your Council and State or Territory Government to confirm if tradesmen are required to create and manage an *Asbestos Register and Management Plan* for your property. If it is required, be sure to ask for a copy for your records.

DO I NEED TO REMOVE ASBESTOS?

Generally, you don't need to remove asbestos if it's sealed and in good condition. If it is asbestos-cement sheeting (fibro), paint it using good quality paint and leave it alone but check it occasionally for any signs of wear and tear.

WHAT IF I FIND ASBESTOS THAT HAS BEEN DAMAGED?

Visit **asbestosawareness.com.au** to download a **Fact Sheet** for basic steps on how to make simple repairs to seal asbestos or remove small amounts of asbestos safely.

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY HOME CONTAINS ASBESTOS?

If your home was built or renovated before 1990 it will most likely contain asbestos in some form or another.

HOW CAN I FIND OUT IF MY HOME WAS BUILT OR RENOVATED BEFORE 1990?

Contact your Council. Some have online databases however, not all refurbishments require Council approval. Asbestos may have been introduced to your home if it underwent any renovations, repairs or refurbishments such as replacing/adding floorcoverings or tiles prior to 1990.

WHERE CAN I GO TO LEARN WHERE ASBESTOS PRODUCTS MIGHT BE FOUND?

Visit **asbestosawareness.com.au** to view a short video, *'Asbestos In Your Home – The Ultimate Renovators Guide'* to identify various locations in homes where asbestos might be found.

WHERE CAN I FIND INFORMATION ON THE SORTS OF PRODUCTS TO LOOK FOR?

Visit **asbestosawareness.com.au** to search the 'Asbestos Product Database'. Accessible on mobile and desktop devices, the database is user friendly and provides people with multiple search options and features images of products commonly found in homes.

WHEN TO GET THE PROFESSIONALS IN!

IF ASBESTOS PRODUCTS NEED TO BE REMOVED, IT'S RECOMMENDED THAT YOU USE A LICENCED ASBESTOS REMOVALIST TRAINED TO REMOVE AND DISPOSE OF ASBESTOS SAFELY.

THE COST OF ENGAGING A
PROFESSIONAL LICENCED ASBESTOS
REMOVALIST IS COMPARABLE TO
OTHER LICENCED TRADESPERSONS
INCLUDING ELECTRICIANS,
PLUMBERS AND TILERS.





To rule out if asbestos products are in your home, you can have it inspected by a licenced asbestos assessor or occupational hygienist.

Only scientific testing can determine if a product contains asbestos.

THE RULE IS, IF YOU THINK IT MIGHT BE ASBESTOS, TREAT IT AS IF IT IS ASBESTOS AND TAKE ALL THE NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS ENSURING YOU MANAGE IT SAFELY.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE MOST COMMON ASBESTOS PRODUCTS FOUND IN HOMES?

Asbestos may not just be in building materials like walls, ceilings roofing and fences. Asbestos was commonly used in wet areas and in relation to heating including wood heaters, stoves and in sheeting beneath hearths

The most common uses for products include:

- Fibro sheeting (flat and corrugated) which may have been used in internal walls and ceilings, external walls and cladding, roofing, infill panels in windows and doors, eaves, fencing, carports, sheeting under floor tiles, bathroom and laundry walls, backyard sheds and dog kennels.
- Electrical switchboards, backing to floor tiles and sheet vinyl, carpet underlay, the backing behind ceramic wall tiles and textile seals to ovens.
- Water drainage, downpipes and flue pipes.
- Roofing shingles and guttering.
- In some homes, loose-fill asbestos was used in ceiling space as insulation.

CHECK WITH COUNCIL BEFORE ENTERING CEILING SPACE!

'LOOSE-FILL' (MR FLUFFY) ASBESTOS INSULATION WAS INSTALLED IN CEILINGS IN SOME HOMES IN NSW AND THE A.C.T. BETWEEN 1968 AND 1979. TO CHECK IF YOUR HOME MIGHT BE LOCATED IN AN AFFECTED COUNCIL AREA CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL, NSW FAIR TRADING OR THE A.C.T. GOVERNMENT.

ARE THERE OTHER HEALTH HAZARDS RESIDENTS NEED TO BE AWARE OF?

Yes. Lead. Most Australian homes built or renovated before 1997 can contain lead paint and other lead products including flashing around roofs, windows, doors and chimneys, solder on pipes, rainwater tanks, galvanised roofs and gutters.

Breathing dust that contains lead can be harmful to your health. Lead dust caused from the breakdown of paints could be in ceilings, wall cavities, under floors, carpets, cavity dust and in soil surrounding your home.

Some treated timbers can also contain toxins which if inhaled in smoke or in dust, can cause serious health problems. Before working with treated timber, painting or renovating visit your State or Territory Government website to learn how to manage these hazards safely.

SIMPLE STEPS TO CREATING AN ASBESTOS AWARENESS RESIDENTIAL CHECKLIST.

By creating this 'Checklist' you'll become more aware of the possible locations where asbestos might be found in your home so you can better maintain it and ensure asbestos is managed safely, particularly if planning renovations.

If you come across asbestos that is damaged or needs to be sealed or painted, use this Checklist to schedule repairs, maintenance or removal.















ASBESTOS AWARENESS Residential Checklist

Date visually inspected Address of property
What year (or approximate year) was the home constructed (if known)?
What is the main material the home is made of? Brick/weatherboard/fibro/clad
Are there any additions or extensions to the building and if so, what year?
Were there any known renovations conducted before 1990?
Are there additional buildings or structures on the site that may contain asbestos such as dog kennels, garages, carports, outdoor toilets or backyard sheds?

YOU ARE CONDUCTING A VISUAL INSPECTION ONLY. DO NOT DISTURB ANY REAL PROBLEM MATERIAL THAT MAY BE ASBESTOS. IF A SAMPLE OF MATERIAL IS TO BE TESTED, CONTACT A LICENCED ASBESTOS ASSESSOR OR OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENIST.

HOW TO CONDUCT A VISUAL INSPECTION OF YOUR PROPERTY TO IDENTIFY WHERE ASBESTOS MIGHT BE LOCATED IN YOUR HOME AND IF IT'S IN NEED OF MAINTENANCE TO MANAGE IT SAFELY.

If you think something 'Might Be Asbestos', TICK the box MBA.

If asbestos '*Requires Repairs'* or is in need of paint or is broken, **CROSS** the box **RR**.

EXTERNAL PROPERTY	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
External walls	\checkmark	×
External angle moldings (on corners)	\checkmark	
Joinery strips (to cover joins)		

TERRITORY GOVERNMENT TO CHECK IF YOUR HOME MAY BE AFFECTED BY LOOSE-FILL ASBESTOS (MR FLUFFY).

STEP 1: COUNCIL

Check with Council to see if there is a record of when your home was built or renovated, and to find out if your home may have been affected by Mr Fluffy.

STEP 2: WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Visit asbestosawareness.com.au to view the 'Asbestos In Your Home – The Ultimate Renovators Guide' and familiarise yourself with possible products by viewing the 'Asbestos Product Database'.

STEP 3: EXTERNAL

Start in the front yard of your home. Walk around the yard looking at the various Checklist locations.

STEP 4: INTERNAL

Start at the front door. Walk through the home, one room at a time looking at Checklist locations. If you think something may be asbestos, TICK the box 'May Be Asbestos' (MBA). If asbestos 'Requires Repairs' or is in need of paint or is broken, CROSS the box RR.

STEP 5: WET AREAS & HEATING

Asbestos products were commonly used in wet areas and with wood-fuelled heating so pay particular attention to kitchens. bathrooms, laundries and fireplaces. If you think something may be asbestos, tick the MBA box.

EXTERNAL HOME CHECKLIST

EXTERNAL PROPERTY	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
External walls (asbestos cement (AC) sheeting, corrugated, artificial brick)		
External angle moldings (on corners)		
Joinery strips (to cover joins)		
Architrave around doors and windows		
Roof		
Roof capping		
Guttering		
Downpipes		
Eaves and gables		
External ventilation outlets		
Walls of extension to property		
Cement slabs		
In cement flooring		
Insulation for hot water pipes and tanks		
Electrical meter boards incl. ceramic fuses		
Formwork of cement slabs		
Sealants in air conditioning ducting joins		



HEATING & COOLING	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Gussets in ducted air-conditioning systems		
Fireplace, flues		
Hot water system		



SUBFLOOR SPACE	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Broken pieces of asbestos sheeting		
Lagging around hot water pipes		

FENCING	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Front fence		
Left fence		
Right fence		
Rear fence		
Other		



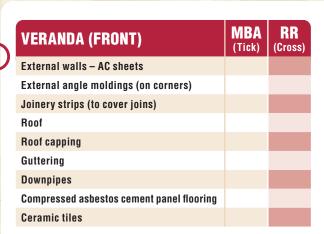
EXTENSION OR GRANNY FLAT	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
External walls		
External angle moldings (on corners)		
Joinery strips (to cover joins)		
Roof		
Roof capping		
Guttering		
Downpipes		
Eaves and gables		
External ventilation outlets		
Floor covering		
Kitchenette		
Fireplace		
Bathroom		
Laundry		



IMPORTANT

DO NOT ENTER CEILING SPACE OR SUBFLOOR AREAS IF YOUR HOME IS LOCATED IN COUNCIL REGIONS THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS LOOSE-FILL REGIONS.

To check if your home is located in an affected area, contact your Council, NSW Fair Trading or the ACT Government.



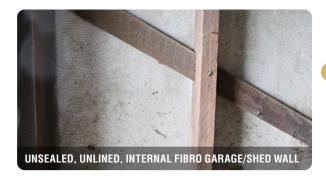
VERANDA (REAR)	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
External walls – AC sheets		
External angle moldings (on corners)		
Joinery strips (to cover joins)		
Roof		
Roof capping		
Guttering		
Downpipes		
Compressed asbestos cement panel flooring		
Ceramic tiles		
Cement		



ADDITIONAL STRUCTURES	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Outside toilet		
Outside laundry or laundry extension		
Garden sheds		
Dad's shed		
Dog kennel or other domestic animal shelter such as rabbit hutch		
Chook pens		
Pigeon houses		
Stable or other stock housing		
Machinery sheds		
Water tanks – the cover as well as the exterior and walls covering the peers		
Walls or cement flooring of greenhouse		
Other		



GARAGE OR CARPORT	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
External walls		
Roof		
Roof capping		
Guttering		
Downpipes		
Eaves and gables		
External and internal ventilation outlets		
Internal walls, ceiling.		
Floorcoverings such as: vinyl tiles or sheeting, ceramic tiles		



OTHER EXTERNAL PLACES	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Cement slabs		
Under houses		
Stored behind sheds		
In the ground or garden beds		
Formwork for garden beds		



INTERNAL

FRONT ENTRY & HALLWAYS	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Walls		
Ceiling		
Architrave around doorways and windows	3	
Cornices or moldings		
Joinery strips in walls		
Internal ventilation outlets		
Behind wall paper (sometimes used to disguise asbestos wall sheeting)		
Floor coverings – carpet, tiles, lino, vinyl	ı	
Wall caulking and jointing compounds (used like putty), plastic cornice adhesives and sealants.		



LIVING ROOM	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Walls		
Ceiling		
Architrave around doorways and windows		
Cornices or moldings		
Joinery strips in walls		
Internal ventilation outlets		
Behind wall paper (sometimes used to disguise asbestos wall sheeting)		
Floor coverings – carpet, tiles, lino, vinyl		
Fireplace		





DINING ROOM	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Walls		
Ceiling		
Architrave around doorways and windows		
Cornices or moldings		
Joinery strips in walls		
Internal ventilation outlets		
Behind wall paper (sometimes used to disguise asbestos wall sheeting)		
Floor coverings – carpet, tiles, lino, vinyl		
Fireplace		





FAMILY/RUMPUS/EXTENSION	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Walls		
Ceiling		
Architrave around doorways and windows		
Cornices or moldings		
Joinery strips in walls		
Internal ventilation outlets		
Behind wall paper (sometimes used to disguise asbestos wall sheeting)		
Floor coverings – carpet, tiles, lino, vinyl		
Fireplace		

MBA RR **BATHROOM 1** (Tick) (Cross) Asbestos cement sheeting walls Asbestos cement sheeting ceiling Tilux (coloured, patterned walls) Architrave around doorways and windows **Cornices or moldings** Joinery strips in walls Internal ventilation outlets Behind wall paper (sometimes used to disguise asbestos wall sheeting) Floor tiles, bathroom carpet lino, vinyl Lagging: hot water pipes under the sink and behind walls in wall cavities

BATHROOM 2	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Asbestos cement sheeting walls		
Asbestos cement sheeting ceiling		
Tilux (coloured, patterned walls)		
Architrave around doorways and windows		
Cornices or moldings		
Joinery strips in walls		
Internal ventilation outlets		
Behind wall paper (sometimes used to disguise asbestos wall sheeting)		
Floor tiles, bathroom carpet lino, vinyl		
Wall tiles		
Lagging: hot water pipes under the sink and behind walls in wall cavities		





NOTE: OTHER THAN WALLS AND CEILINGS, WET AND HEAT AREAS ARE THE MOST COMMON PLACES TO FIND ASBESTOS-CONTAINING PRODUCTS INSIDE THE HOME.





KITCHEN	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Walls	(11011)	(0.000)
Ceiling		
Architrave around doorways and windows		
Cornices or moldings including angle moldings and adhesives		
Joinery strips in walls		
Internal ventilation outlets		
Behind wall paper (sometimes used to disguise asbestos wall sheeting). Wall papering was common in the 70s and 80s.		
Floor coverings may include: lino, vinyl floor tiles and ceramic tiles. (fibro sheet- ing sometimes used to level floors)		
Wall tiles		
Tilux splashbacks		
In older kitchens: Laminate benchtops (Formica) and sometimes vinyl sheeting lining cupboard shelves.		
Asbestos cement sheeting under Vinyl floor coverings		
Oven door seals		
Fire Blankets		
Wall tiles usually above sink		
Flue in fuel stove		
Lagging (insulation): hot water pipes under the sink and behind walls in wall cavities		
Exhaust canopy over stove (asbestos lagging and/or asbestos cement sheeting surround		

LAUNDRY	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Asbestos cement sheeting walls		
Asbestos cement sheeting ceiling		
Tilux (coloured, patterned walls)		
Architrave around doorways and windows	S	
Cornices or moldings		
Joinery strips in walls		
Internal ventilation outlets		
Unlined walls (if exterior wall is fibro and timber framework is visible, the inside wall should be enclosed or sealed with paint)	Is	
Floor tiles, lino, vinyl		
Wall tiles (usually above sinks)		
Lagging: hot water pipes under the sink and behind walls in wall cavities		



SUNROOM	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Walls		
Ceiling		
Architrave around doorways and windows		
Cornices or moldings		
Joinery strips in walls		
Internal ventilation outlets		
Behind wall paper (sometimes used to disguise asbestos wall sheeting)		
Floor coverings – carpet, tiles, lino, vinyl		
Fireplace		





BEDROOM 1	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Walls		
Ceiling		
Architrave around doorways and windows		
Cornices or moldings		
Joinery strips in walls		
Internal ventilation outlets		
Behind wall paper (sometimes used to disguise asbestos wall sheeting)		
Floor coverings – carpet, tiles, lino, vinyl		
Fireplace		

BEDROOM 2	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Walls		
Ceiling		
Architrave around doorways and windows		
Cornices or moldings		
Joinery strips in walls		
Internal ventilation outlets		
Behind wall paper (sometimes used to disguise asbestos wall sheeting)		
Floor coverings – carpet, tiles, lino, vinyl		
Fireplace		



BEDROOM 3	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Walls		
Ceiling		
Architrave around doorways and windows		
Cornices or moldings		
Joinery strips in walls		
Internal ventilation outlets		
Behind wall paper (sometimes used to disguise asbestos wall sheeting)		
Floor coverings – carpet, tiles, lino, vinyl		
Fireplace		

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	BEDROOM 4	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
,	Walls		
	Ceiling		
	Architrave around doorways and windows		
	Cornices or moldings		
	Joinery strips in walls		
	Internal ventilation outlets		
	Behind wall paper (sometimes used to disguise asbestos wall sheeting)		
	Floor coverings – carpet, tiles, lino, vinyl		
	Fireplace		

OTHER	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)
Walls		
Ceiling		
Architrave around doorways and windows		
Cornices or moldings		
Joinery strips in walls		
Internal ventilation outlets		
Behind wall paper (sometimes used to disguise asbestos wall sheeting)		
Floor coverings – carpet, tiles, lino, vinyl		
Fireplace		

Additional Items

ITEM	LOCATION	MBA (Tick)	RR (Cross)

Need more space? Visit asbestosawareness.com.au to download additional blank tables.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU'VE NOTED POSSIBLE ASBESTOS-CONTAINING MATERIALS IN YOUR HOME

- What if you come across any possible asbestos that is damaged or needs to be sealed or painted?
 - ✓ Use this Checklist to schedule repairs, maintenance or removal (if necessary) by a licenced asbestos removalist.
- What if asbestos cement sheeting (fibro) is painted and in good condition?
 - ✓ Monitor it for any wear and tear and ensure it remains sealed by re-painting when required.
- What if asbestos sheeting is unsealed?
 - ✓ Seal asbestos sheeting by painting it with good quality paint and leave it alone. If sealed, it doesn't pose a health risk.
- What if there are small amounts of asbestos that are broken, damaged (cracked) or in need of removal?
 - ✓ Homeowners can make small, simple repairs or remove small amounts of asbestos safely if they follow the Asbestos Awareness Fact Sheet 1 "WORKING SAFELY WITH ASBESTOS AROUND THE HOME" or Fact Sheet 2 (more detailed) which can be downloaded from asbestosawareness.com.au
- What if I want to confirm if asbestos materials are in my property?
 - Contact a licenced asbestos assessor or occupational hygienist who can safely take a sample of the material and have it tested by a NATA accredited laboratory.
- What if I want to remove large amounts of asbestos?
 - ✓ Contact a licenced asbestos removalist. The cost of using a licenced, experienced removalist is comparable with most other licenced trades and it is the safest option.
- What should I do if I'm thinking of renovating?
 - ✓ It is recommended that you engage a licenced asbestos assessor or occupational hygienist to conduct a formal inspection and have samples tested by a NATA accredited testing laboratory.
 - ✓ Contact your Council, State or Territory Government for asbestos management regulations specific to your area.

REPAIR SCHEDULE

List below all the areas you have marked 'Requires Repair' (RR) and the dates you've scheduled to undertake minor repairs or maintenance.

When maintenance has been completed, include the date sealing or repairs were made. This will help you monitor asbestos-containing products in and around your home.

For more information on how to identify and manage asbestos safely, visit asbestosawareness.com.au

REMEMBER

When doing minor repairs or maintenance refer to Fact Sheet 1 'WORKING SAFELY WITH ASBESTOS AROUND THE HOME' or Fact Sheet 2 (more detailed) at asbestosawareness.com.au For major repairs or removal of asbestos materials, ONLY use licenced asbestos removalists because

it's not worth the risk!

LOCATION	REPAIRS REQUIRED	DATE FOR REPAIR	DATE Completed	DATE FOR REVIEW		
Shed	External painting	1 Nov 2021	30 Nov 2021	30 Nov 2022		
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Need more space? Visit **asbestosawareness.com.au** to download additional blank tables.

RESIDENTIAL MANAGEMENT TIPS

- Schedule maintenance dates you've noted above in your phone so you don't forget!
- Conduct visual inspections every 12 months checking areas you've identified to ensure they're stable and in good condition.
- Download Fact Sheets from <u>asbestosawareness.com.au</u>. The Fact Sheets provide instructions on how to do minor repairs safely.
- Keep a set of Personal Protection Equipment (listed in Fact Sheets) in case accidents happen and small repairs are required.
- If damage has occurred, unless it's minor, get a licenced asbestos assessor or removalist to advise about repairs.

ThinkSmart.ThinkSafe.Think asbestosawareness.com.au

it's not worth the risk!





