

FACT SHEET

Asbestos Sampling and Testing



Asbestos Sampling and Testing

If you suspect that a material contains asbestos, often the only way to be sure is to send a sample to a NATA accredited lab for testing.

If you don't wish to undertake testing, you may choose to just assume that the material contains asbestos and manage it appropriately.

[As outlined in the Public Health Regulation 2018](#), significant penalties can apply if you handle, remove, transport or dispose of asbestos incorrectly – so it is safer to test or err on the side of caution!

FIND A LAB

If you wish to proceed with testing, a list of NATA approved labs is provided below, or refer to the website listed above.

A basic sampling procedure is provided below, however once you have chosen a lab, they will be able to provide you with specific directions for sampling and submission.


PREPARATION

1. Make sure no one is in the vicinity
2. Turn off fans or air conditioning and if outside sample on a non-windy day
3. Arrange equipment required for sampling – pliers, re-sealable plastic bags, glue/paint, plastic drop sheet, spray bottle
4. Wear protective gear – P2 respirator, disposable coveralls, disposable gloves


SAMPLING PROCEDURE


1. Lay down drop sheet to catch any loose material
2. Wet down sample area using a fine spray from spray bottle
3. Remove a thumb sized piece of material with clean pliers
4. Place sample in a re-sealable plastic bag, then double bag and label sample.
5. Clean up the area using a damp cloth
6. Seal edges where sample was removed with glue or paint
7. Wipe down pliers and any other non-disposable items used in sampling.
8. Place all disposable items in a plastic bag for disposal. P2 respirator should be the last item you remove.
9. Wash hands and face
10. Send sample as per lab directions.

How can you contact us?

 online, visit www.banana.qld.gov.au
click on 'Contact us'

 email enquiries@banana.qld.gov.au

 telephone (07) 4992 9500

 mail, post to Banana Shire Council
PO Box 412, Biloela Qld 4715

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NATA ACCREDITED LABORATORIES

(Refer to www.nata.asn.au for a complete list)

Envirohealth Consulting Pty Ltd (No: 3375)

7/210 Queensport Road North

Murarie Qld 4172

Ph: 3390 5344

www.envirohealth.com.au

QOHS (No. 20972)

Suite 1A, 54 Gregory St

Mackay Qld 4740

Ph: 0457 855 751

www.qohs.com.au

HazSure Laboratories (No. 20060)

Level 22, 22 Mayneview St

Milton Qld 4065

Ph: 3191 4684

www.hazsure.com.au

Prensa Pty Ltd (No: 17366)

Level 2, 16 Douglas Street

Milton Qld 4064

Ph: 3367 8944

Environmental & Laboratory Solutions Pty Ltd (No: 18452)

Suite 23, 14 Argyle Street

Albion Qld 4010

Ph: 3256 2302

OCTIEF Consulting and Laboratory Services Pty Ltd (No: 15172)

1A, 22 Ereton Drive

Arundel Qld 4214

Ph: 5500 2827 (Gold Coast Branch)

SGS Australia Pty Ltd (No: 2562)

2/58 Comport Street

Cairns Qld 4870

Ph: 4035 5111

WSP Australia Pty Ltd (No: 9607)

Level 4, North Bank Plaza

69 Ann Street

Brisbane Qld 4000

Ph: 3854 6200

SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd (No: 3130)

High Point Plaza

Ground Floor, Suite 7

240 Waterworks Road

Ashgrove Qld 4060

Ph: 3858 4800

Having materials tested for asbestos

Laboratories that analyse building materials for asbestos can be found by contacting the National Association of Testing Authorities.

The laboratories can also give you advice on how to correctly take and send a sample. There will be fees involved. You can also contact an asbestos consultant or competent person for advice by searching the internet or local phone directory.

National Association of Testing Authorities

1800 621 666

www.nata.asn.au