

## How can I protect my family from lead?

**Do:** Wet mop floors

**Do:** Wet wipe window sills

**Do:** Vacuum using high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter

**Do:** Wash all surfaces often

**Do:** Remove shoes or wipe them on a doormat before going inside

**Do:** Wash your child's hands often, especially before eating and sleeping

**Do:** If you work with lead, shower and change your clothes and shoes before going home or getting into your car

**Do:** Wash your clothes separately from the family laundry if you work with lead

**Do:** Remove recalled toys and toy jewelry from your home. To know if a toy or piece of jewelry has been recalled, visit the Consumer Product Safety Commission's Website at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)

**Do:** Cover bare soil with ground cover or grass



**Don't:** Perform renovations, such as dry scraping or sanding painted surfaces, unless the area has been tested and does not contain lead

**Don't:** Allow your child chew on painted surfaces or eat paint chips

**Don't:** Use glazed pots and dishes that are handmade, antique, damaged, or brightly colored in orange, red, or yellow

**Don't:** Use glazed pots or dishes that were purchased from flea markets or street vendors



For more information, call 1-800-588-1248 or visit our website at [www.dshs.texas.gov/lead](http://www.dshs.texas.gov/lead).



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# Lead Poisoning is Preventable

Learn where lead can be found and how to protect your family.



## How can lead affect my child's health?

- Lead poisoning can affect your child's speech and hearing, and lead to behavioral problems.
- Lead poisoning can affect their ability to learn and pay attention.
- All children in the household should be tested if anyone in the family has an elevated blood lead level.
- If you are pregnant, lead can hurt your baby.

**Ask your doctor if you should get a blood test for lead**

## How can lead enter my child's body?

- Lead poisoning is caused by swallowing lead or breathing lead dust.
- This is because children often put objects and fingers in their mouths.



## Where can lead be found?

### Lead in Homes Built Before 1978

Lead-based paint is the most widespread source of lead exposure to young children.

- Doorways, fences, and windows
  - Opening and closing doors and windows can rub away paint and create lead dust
- Paint on Porches and Fences
- Soil in the yard, playgrounds or gardens near painted buildings

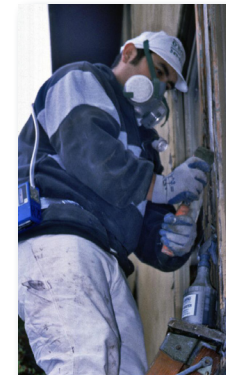


### Lead at Work

Common jobs where lead is found include:

- Painting, remodeling, renovation or demolition work
- Radiator or battery repair
- Firing ranges
- Soldering or welding
- Foundries and scrap metal operations

**Ask your employer to tell you if you work with lead.**



### Lead Imported from other Countries

These following products often have lead:

- Home remedies (bright orange, yellow, or white powders) such as Greta, Azarcon, Paylooh, or Liga
- Imported spices
- Make-up such as Kohl and Surma
- Imported candies, especially candies from Mexico made with tamarind fruit
- Pots and dishes that are old, handmade, or made outside of the United States
- Pottery (including Mexican bean pots), ceramics and crystal

