



LEAD IN PAINT WORKSHEET FOR HOME-BASED CHILD CARE

Background: The manufacture of lead-based paint was banned in the United States in 1978, but many older homes around the country still contain it. Lead was originally used as an additive to paint to allow for brighter pigment and durability, but it has since been demonstrated to cause a number of irreversible health impacts, including brain damage, loss of IQ, poor memory, behavior problems, and death. **When lead-based paint deteriorates, chips and dust settle onto surfaces children can easily reach, such as windowsills and floors. Contaminated dust can inhaled or ingested and is hazardous even if the particles are too small to see. Even very low levels of lead contamination can cause brain damage.** According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), lead from paint is one of the most common causes of lead poisoning in the United States. For more information on lead exposures in home settings, visit the [EPA's Protect Your Family from Exposures to Lead web page](#).

Lead is especially dangerous to children, because their brains and nervous systems are more sensitive to lead's damaging effects, and their young bodies are able to absorb more lead. Plus, babies and young children often put their hands and other objects in their mouths. These objects may have lead dust on them, particularly if a child is crawling on floors contaminated with lead dust. Once ingested, lead competes with calcium and can be stored in bones, teeth, and organs for decades, making lead poisoning difficult to treat.

INSTRUCTIONS: To reduce potential exposures to lead in paint, fill out the worksheet below once a year and keep it in your family handbook for your records. Follow each step below to find out if lead is in interior and exterior paint of your child care home.

Date this form was completed:

1 WE FIND OUT WHEN OUR CHILD CARE HOME WAS BUILT.

If you own your home, consult the materials you received when you bought it. If you rent, ask your landlord, who is required to disclose any lead paint hazards to you. For more information on disclosure, go to [EPA's Real Estate Disclosures about Lead Paint Hazards web page](#).

For further assistance with your rights as a renter, view the [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Tenant Rights web page](#).

State-level grant programs and local funding resources may be available if you need financial support to carry out lead hazard controls in your family child care home.

Check one of the boxes below to indicate action taken based on your home's year of construction.

This home was built after 1978; therefore, we do not expect our home's paint to contain lead. (No further action is needed regarding lead-based paint.)

This home was built before 1978. (Proceed to Step 2.)

2 WE HAVE OUR HOME INSPECTED FOR LEAD-BASED PAINT.

Instructions: If your home was built before 1978, take action by hiring a certified lead inspector or risk assessor. A lead-based paint inspection (national average cost is \$310) tells you whether your home has lead-based paint and where it is located. A risk assessment is more expensive (range \$800-\$2,000), but it tells you if your home currently has any lead hazards and also tells you actions to take to address those hazards. The risk assessor will sample dust near painted surfaces to see if it has lead levels above federal or state standards.

The EPA's [Certified Inspection, Risk Assessment, and Abatement Locator tool](#) can help you to identify a certified professional near you. Contact the nearest childhood lead poisoning prevention program (CLPPP) or local health agency for free or reduced-cost lead paint testing resources and any additional state-specific instructions.

CHECK ALL THE BOXES BELOW THAT APPLY. Keep records of all inspection and testing activities.

We had our child care home's paint inspected for lead.
Name and contact information for inspector or risk assessor:

Inspection report is on file.

We disclosed the following inspection results to parents and staff (check all that apply):

Field tests of paint

Lab tests of paint samples

Lab tests of dust samples



- The lead inspection (choose one of the two responses below):
- Did not find lead-based paint in our child care home (No further action is needed regarding lead-based paint.)
 - Found lead-based paint on one or more surfaces of our child care home. (Proceed to Step 3).

3 THE LEAD INSPECTION INDICATES A POTENTIAL PROBLEM WITH LEAD-BASED PAINT THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED. CREATE A LEAD REMEDIATION PLAN.

Instructions: If lead is identified in either the interior or exterior paint of the family child care home, consult your state or local CLPPP, public health agency, and/or a certified risk assessment professional to write a "remediation plan" to reduce any identified hazards. This remediation plan may take one of two forms:

- **Interim controls:** These are measures such as dust removal, paint stabilization, and/or control of friction/abrasion points to ensure no one is exposed to lead-based paint hazards. Some intact lead-based paint may remain in your home but will not pose a hazard. These controls have been found to be effective, while less expensive than full abatement (see below).
- **Full abatement:** These are measures that permanently remove lead-based paint and include component (e.g., windowsill) replacement, paint removal, enclosure, or encapsulation of lead-based paint. The EPA estimates that full-home lead paint abatement can cost up to \$10,000.

State-level grant programs and local funding resources may be available if you need financial support to have either interim controls or lead abatement done.

CHECK ALL THE BOXES BELOW THAT APPLY:

- We consulted a professional to determine the best steps for lead hazard control work in our child care home.

Name of professional and contact information:

CHECK ONE OF THE TWO BOXES BELOW:

- The professional prepared an interim control plan to control lead hazards. This plan is on file.
 - The professional prepared an abatement plan to remove lead hazards.
- We utilized the [EPA's Certified Inspection, Risk Assessment, and Abatement Locator tool](#) or contacted CLPPP to identify a certified lead abatement contractor near us.
- We disclosed the need for lead hazard control work to parents and staff, and followed local health department precautions to close our family child care home during removal process. For reference, the [Rhode Island Department of Public Health](#) has good example guidance for regarding keeping occupants safe during abatement.

4 A CERTIFIED LEAD ABATEMENT CONTRACTOR COMPLETED THE WORK TO CONTROL LEAD HAZARDS IN OUR CHILD CARE HOME.

CHECK ONE OF THE TWO BOXES BELOW:

- We performed the recommended interim controls, and received a [Letter of Interim Control](#) from our risk assessor, verifying we have taken appropriate measures to control our lead hazard, which is good for 1 year. This letter is on file.

Date of interim control letter:

Date of interim control renewal: (Proceed to Step 5.)

- We performed the recommended lead abatement work and received a letter from our risk assessor, verifying that we have taken sufficient measures to remove our lead hazards permanently. (No further action is needed regarding lead-based paint.)

5 IF INTERIM CONTROLS WERE DONE, CONDUCT ANNUAL CHECKS.

Instructions: To maintain interim controls, check all applicable boxes below to indicate the actions taken to ensure interim controls remain in place:

- Regular inspection to ensure paint remains intact.
- Regular inspection to ensure there are no friction/rubbing in areas where lead-based paint was identified. 
- Inspecting and addressing roof and water leaks to reduce paint deterioration from moisture exposure.
- Our home is re-inspected each year by a risk assessor to ensure our facility meets interim control standards.

Date of most recent inspection:

- We use certified lead-safe contractors for any renovation or repair work that takes place in our center (called RRP contractors). RRP contractor information can be found at [EPA's Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program website](#).
- We connect with our state and local health departments to ensure we are keeping in compliance with any region-specific or state/federal requirements around lead-based paint hazards and reducing childhood lead poisoning
- We take steps to reduce humidity and moisture buildup by keeping our home well-ventilated throughout the year, checking frequently for leaks and water spots, and using air conditioning indoors on hot and humid days.



- We clean window frames, windowsills, and railings weekly. Using a damp mop, sponge, or paper towel with warm water and a general all-purpose cleaner. Whenever possible, we use a cleaner that is third-party certified as least-toxic, fragrance-free by EcoLogo or GreenSeal or has the EPA's Safer Choice Fragrance-Free label.



- Routine vacuuming. Using a high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter can help reduce contaminated dust and dirt levels.

RESOURCES ON LEAD IN PAINT:

- EPA's Certified Inspection, Risk Assessment, and Abatement Locator: <https://cfpub.epa.gov/flpp/pub/index.cfm?do=main.firmSearchAbatement>
- EPA's Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program: <https://www.epa.gov/lead/renovation-repair-and-painting-program-contractors>
- HUD's Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Paint Hazards in Housing: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/healthy_homes/lbp/hudguidelines
- Lead Abatement Resource Center: <https://larcusa.org/>
- The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/documents/renovaterightbrochure.pdf>

*Always contact your local health department or primary health care provider if you think there may be lead in or around your child care home. **DON'T TRY TO REMOVE LEAD-BASED PAINT YOURSELF.** Disturbing lead-based paint or removing lead improperly can increase the hazard to your family by spreading even more lead dust around the house. Families should also have their children tested if they suspect they have been exposed to lead.

**Always check your local and state child care licensing regulations to make sure you're in compliance.