

Types of Asbestos Survey

HSG 264 (Asbestos: The Survey Guide) describes two types of survey:

Management Surveys

A management survey is the standard survey. Its purpose is to locate, as far as reasonably practicable, the presence and extent of any suspect ACMs in the building which could be damaged or disturbed during normal occupancy, including foreseeable maintenance and installation, and to assess their condition. Management surveys can involve a combination of sampling to confirm asbestos is present or presuming asbestos to be present.

Refurbishment and Demolition Surveys

A refurbishment and demolition survey is needed before any refurbishment or demolition work is carried out. This type of survey is used to locate and describe, as far as reasonably practicable, all ACMs in the area where the refurbishment work will take place or in the whole building if demolition is planned. The survey will be fully intrusive and involve destructive inspection, as necessary, to gain access to all areas, including those that may be difficult to reach. A refurbishment and demolition survey may also be required in other circumstances, eg when more intrusive maintenance and repair work will be carried out or for plant removal or dismantling.

Material Assessment Scores

Where ACMs have been identified or presumed, a material score is calculated in accordance with HSG 264 (Asbestos: The Survey Guide). The value assigned to each of the four sample variables is added together to give a total material score between 2 and 12.

Sample Variable	Score	Examples of Score
Product Type (or Debris from Product)	1	Asbestos reinforced composites (plastics, resins, mastics, roofing felts, vinyl floor tiles, semi-rigid paints or decorative finishes, asbestos cement etc)
	2	Asbestos insulating board, mill boards, other low density insulation boards, asbestos textiles, gaskets, ropes and woven textiles, asbestos paper and felt
	3	Thermal insulation (eg pipe and boiler lagging), sprayed asbestos, loose asbestos, asbestos mattresses and packing
Extent of Damage / Deterioration	0	Good condition: no visible damage
	1	Low damage: a few scratches or surface marks; broken edges on board, tiles etc.
	2	Medium damage: significant breakage of materials or several small areas where material has been damaged revealing loose asbestos fibres
	3	High damage or delamination of materials, sprays and thermal insulation. Visible asbestos debris.
Surface Treatment	0	Composite materials containing asbestos: reinforced plastics, resins, vinyl tiles
	1	Enclosed sprays and lagging, asbestos insulating board (with exposed face painted or encapsulated), asbestos cement sheets etc.
	2	Unsealed asbestos insulating board, or encapsulated lagging and sprays
	3	Unsealed laggings and sprays
Asbestos Type	1	Chrysotile
	2	Amphibole asbestos excluding crocidolite
	3	Crocidolite

The material score determines the potential for a material to release asbestos fibres when disturbed. This score is then categorised to describe the potential:

Material Score	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Category	Very Low			Low		Medium			High		

Priority Assessment Scores

The priority assessment is determined by carrying out an assessment of the likelihood of the ACM being disturbed through: **Normal Occupant Activity**, **Likelihood of Disturbance**, **Human Exposure Potential** and **Maintenance Activity**. Guidance on Priority Assessments is provided in HSG 227 (A Comprehensive Guide to Managing Asbestos in Premises) and HSG 264 (Asbestos: The Survey Guide).

The surveyor has carried out a priority risk assessment on your behalf. This is based on the activities witnessed by the surveyor on the day of the survey. This information can contribute to the risk assessment, however **it is the duty holder's responsibility under CAR 2012 to complete the Risk Assessments using the Survey report and his / her own detailed knowledge of the activities carried out within the premises.**

Assessment Parameter	Score	Examples of Score
Normal Occupant Activity		
Main Type of Activity in Area	0	Rare disturbance activity (eg little used store room)
	1	Low disturbance activities (eg office type activity)
	2	Periodic disturbance (eg industrial or vehicular activity which may cause contact with ACMs)
	3	High levels of disturbance, (eg fire door with asbestos insulating board sheet in constant use)
Likelihood of Disturbance		
Location	0	Outdoors
	1	Large Rooms or well-ventilated areas
	2	Rooms up to 100 sq metres in area
	3	Restricted or confined areas
Accessibility	0	Usually inaccessible or unlikely to be disturbed
	1	Occasionally likely to be disturbed
	2	Easily disturbed
	3	Routinely disturbed
Extent / Amount	0	Small amounts or single items (eg strings, gaskets)
	1	Less than 10 sq metres area, or 10 metre pipe run
	2	10 to 50 sq metres area or 10 to 50 metres pipe run
	3	More than 50 sq metres, or 50 metres pipe run
Average Score		Average of scores for Location , Accessibility and Extent / Amount <i>Maximum score of 3</i>
Human Exposure Potential		
Number of Occupants	0	None
	1	1 to 3
	2	4 to 10
	3	More than 10
Frequency of Use of Area	0	Infrequent
	1	Monthly
	2	Weekly

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Assessment Parameter	Score	Examples of Score
	3	Daily
Average Time Area is in Use	0	Less than 1 hour
	1	1 to less than 3 hours
	2	3 to less than 6 hours
	3	More than 6 hours
Average Score		Average of scores for Number of Occupants , Frequency of Use of Area , and Average Time Area is in Use <i>Maximum score of 3</i>
Maintenance Activity		
Type of Maintenance Activity	0	Minor disturbance (eg possibility of contact when gaining access)
	1	Low disturbance (eg changing light bulbs in asbestos insulating board ceiling)
	2	Medium disturbance (eg lifting one or two asbestos insulating board ceiling tiles to access a valve)
	3	High levels of disturbance (eg removing a number of asbestos insulating board ceiling tiles to replace a valve or for recabling)
Frequency of Maintenance Activity	0	Unlikely - almost never
	1	Less than once a year
	2	Less than once a month
	3	More often than once a month
Average Score		Average of scores for Type of Maintenance Activity and Frequency of Maintenance Activity <i>Maximum score of 3</i>
Total Score		

Risk Assessment Scores

The material score is added to priority assessment score to give a total risk assessment score between 2 and 24. This score can be used to determine the items that require the most immediate attention.

Material Assessment Score + Priority Assessment Score = **Risk Assessment Score**

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Lowest Risk											Highest Risk											