Disposal of asbestos waste

**Equipment and method sheet**

**What this sheet covers**

This sheet describes good practice when you need to dispose of asbestos waste.

Any asbestos product or material that is ready for disposal is defined as asbestos waste. Asbestos waste also includes contaminated building materials, tools that cannot be decontaminated, personal protective equipment and damp rags used for cleaning. If in doubt, always treat waste as ‘Hazardous’ or ‘Special’. See the table for more details.

You can discharge waste water that may be contaminated with traces of asbestos to the sewage system.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>England and Wales</th>
<th>Scotland</th>
<th>England, Scotland and Wales</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asbestos waste is ‘Hazardous Waste’ when it contains more than 0.1% asbestos.</td>
<td>Asbestos waste is ‘Special Waste’ when it contains more than 0.1% asbestos.</td>
<td>All asbestos waste is subject to Schedule 2 of the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2006 and most waste is subject to the Carriage of Dangerous Goods (etc) Regulations 2004 (CDG).</td>
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<td>The Hazardous Waste Regulations apply. Complete a Waste Consignment Note.</td>
<td>The Special Waste Amendment (Scotland) Regulations apply. Complete a Waste Consignment Note.</td>
<td>Firmly-bound asbestos - asbestos cement and articles with asbestos reinforcement - does not release hazardous or respirable fibres easily. CDG does not apply.</td>
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<td>Contact the Environment Agency for more information.</td>
<td>Contact the Scottish Environment Protection Agency for more information.</td>
<td>The Carriage of Dangerous Goods (etc) Regulations 2004 (CDG) applies for all other asbestos waste. See ‘More help’.</td>
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</table>

**Caution:** Don’t mix asbestos waste with other waste to get below 0.1%.

- Waste must be packed in UN-approved packaging with a CDG hazard sign and asbestos code information visible.
- Double-wrap and label asbestos waste. Standard practice is to use a red inner bag with asbestos warnings, and a clear outer bag with the CDG sign.

**Caution:** Don’t overfill bags. Beware sharp objects that could puncture plastic.
If you carry waste, use a sealed skip, or a vehicle with the following:
- segregated compartment for asbestos;
- easily cleanable; and
- lockable.
Otherwise, arrange for transport by a registered waste carrier.
Safe disposal - at a licensed disposal site.
Complete a Waste Consignment Note. Keep copies of these documents for three years.

Further information


All waste should be double-bagged or double-wrapped in plastic sheeting, with the correct hazard warning signs attached.

Use a lockable skip for asbestos cement sheet
It is not good enough to throw sheeting over a standard skip