



# How To Reduce Lead Dust in Your Home

Homes built before 1978 are at highest risk to contain lead-based paint or dust.

## Vacuum



Vacuum weekly to control lead dust. Cleaning with a HEPA (high efficiency particulate air filter) vacuum is the most effective at picking up lead dust.

- Change the vacuum filter or bags (when full or according to manufacturer recommendations) outside of the home.
- Do NOT use bagless vacuums or canister vacuums without bags or filters.
- Vacuum slowly, in one direction, then repeat in the other direction.
- Clean both sides and underneath area rugs.

## Soft Items



Don't forget the soft items in your home that your child can be in contact with daily.

Machine wash soft items separately from regular laundry with an all purpose detergent, using an extra rinse cycle.

### Soft items include:

- Curtains, bedding, and cushion covers.
- Stuffed animals and other soft toys children play with.
- Clothing of parents who work with lead. Clothing should be removed before entering the home.

## Hard Surfaces



Clean hard surfaces weekly to prevent buildup of lead dust.

### Hard surfaces include:

- Window sills, counter tops, tables, shelves, floors, high chairs, toys, pacifiers, radiators, air vents/registers, door handles/knobs, railings, and ceiling fans.

### When cleaning:

- Always use soap and water and use disposable papers towels if possible.
- Throw paper towels away after each use; do not re-wet and re-use.
- Wet mop with the three-bucket method: water/soap bucket, empty bucket, rinse bucket.
- Flush dirty bucket down the toilet; do NOT toss outside.

## Cleaning Checklist

- |                                       |   |                                   |  |                                       |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Floors       | <input type="checkbox"/> Tables           | <input type="checkbox"/> Bedding  | <input type="checkbox"/> Stuffed animals | <input type="checkbox"/> Highchair    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rugs         | <input type="checkbox"/> Window sills     | <input type="checkbox"/> Curtains | <input type="checkbox"/> Pets            | <input type="checkbox"/> Ceiling fans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Counter tops | <input type="checkbox"/> Handles/knobs    | <input type="checkbox"/> Toys     | <input type="checkbox"/> Radiators/vents | <input type="checkbox"/> Railings     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shelves      | <input type="checkbox"/> Furniture/covers | <input type="checkbox"/> Clothing | <input type="checkbox"/> Furnace filter  | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacifiers    |