

Jobs and Hobbies

Learn which jobs and hobbies can put you or your family at risk:

Even if your home does not put your child at risk for lead toxicity, your hobby or job might.

Lead dust from hobbies and jobs can easily be carried into a child's environment.

Even small amounts of lead can affect how a young child learns and thinks.

- Lead dust can easily cling to children's car seats, clothes and toys.
- Lead dust can be carried away from a work site on work clothes, shoes, tools, hair and skin.
- Pregnant women should be especially careful of lead dust.

You may work with lead dust if you:

- Remove old paint
- Tear down or remodel houses, buildings, tanks, or bridges
- Work at a shooting range
- Work with soldering pipes
- Recycle or fix car radiators
- Melt, cast, or grind lead, brass or bronze
- Make or paint ceramics
- Work with scrap metal
- Make stained glass windows

To protect yourself and your family from lead from your hobby or job:

- Always eat outside of the work area, and away from all sources of lead.
- Wash your hands well with soap and water after working with lead and before eating.
- Wear specific clothes for work or hobbies and wash them separately from other clothes.
- If you can, change your clothes before you get in your vehicle to leave your work site, you may be contaminating your car with lead dust from your clothing which can then spread to places like your child's car seat.
- Shower and wash your hair before holding or playing with your child.
- Know the warning signs of lead toxicity.