

# a6

## asbestos essentials

### Non-licensed tasks

#### Essential information

**Important:** You must read sheet a0 *Introduction to asbestos essentials*

Also read the following sheets:

**em0** Risk assessments and plans of work

**em1** What to do if you discover or accidentally disturb asbestos during your work

**em2** Information, instruction and training

**em6** Personal protective equipment (including RPE)

**em7** Using damp rags to clean surfaces of minor asbestos contamination

**em8** Personal decontamination

**em9** Disposal of asbestos waste

# Repairing minor damage to asbestos insulating board (AIB)

### What this sheet covers

This sheet describes good practice when you need to repair small areas of damaged AIB, eg a broken corner or scratches.

This sheet is *not* appropriate:

- if work lasts more than one hour for one worker in a seven-day period, or exceeds two hours for two or more workers in a seven-day period;
- where the material is badly damaged.

Use an HSE-licensed contractor for such work.

If AIB is in a position where further damage is likely, see sheet a8.

### Preparing the work area

- Ensure safe access.
- Restrict access – minimise the number of people present.
- Close doors. Use tape and notices to warn others.
- Ensure adequate lighting.

### Equipment

- 500-gauge polythene sheeting and duct tape
- Warning tape and notices
- Liquid impact adhesive
- Permanent sealant
- Non-asbestos replacement panel for covering gaps
- Garden-type sprayer or small paint brush
- Bucket of water and rags
- Asbestos waste bag
- Clear polythene bag

### Personal protective equipment (PPE) – see sheet em6

- Provide:
  - disposable overalls fitted with a hood;
  - boots without laces (laced boots are hard to decontaminate);
  - respiratory protective equipment (RPE).



### Other hazards

Work at height – see [www.hse.gov.uk/work-at-height](http://www.hse.gov.uk/work-at-height). Take precautions to avoid falls.

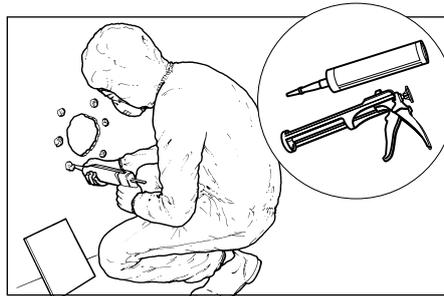
There may be other hazards – you need to consider them all.



This damaged AIB needs to be covered and protected from further damage

### Procedure

- Protect nearby surfaces from contamination. Cover with 500-gauge polythene sheeting and fix with duct tape to non-asbestos surfaces.
- Remove small bits of loose board – use a damp rag. Put these in the asbestos waste bag.
- Paint the damaged area with sealant by brush or gentle spraying.
- After drying, cover gaps with the replacement panel.
- Attach it with adhesive.
- Wipe dusty surfaces with a damp rag.



Attach the replacement panel with adhesive



Wipe up dust and debris with a damp rag

### Cleaning and disposal

- Clean the equipment and the area with damp rags.
- Put debris, used rags, paint brush, polythene sheeting and other waste in the asbestos waste bag and tape it closed.
- Put the asbestos waste bag in a clear polythene bag and tape it closed.
- Disposal – see sheet em9.

### Personal decontamination

See sheet em8.

### Clearance and checking off

- Visually inspect the area to make sure that it has been cleaned properly.
- Clearance air sampling is not normally required.
- Get the premises owner, dutyholder or client to check off the job.

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