

Asbestos Floor Tile Precautions and Procedures

1. All 9x9 floor tile will be assumed to contain asbestos. 12x12 tiles that have not been tested will be treated as asbestos. If after testing it is determined that the floor tile is non-asbestos, it can be handled by non-certified persons. Requests for testing should be directed to your immediate supervisor.
2. Under no circumstances should broken or crumbled asbestos tiles be swept or cleaned up by non-certified maintenance or custodial persons. A certified asbestos person is an individual who has completed an Oregon certified asbestos abatement class. You are to contact your supervisor to schedule necessary help. Do not clean up the tile yourselves!
3. Your supervisor should be notified immediately if damaged floor tile is encountered, unless it has been determined that the tile does not contain asbestos.
4. There is generally not a hazard associated with asbestos tile that is cracked as long as it is still properly adhered to the floor.
5. If asbestos tiles are popping up or are loose, the disposal of these tiles should be handled by an asbestos certified person. Depending on the situation the tiles may be re-glued.
6. No buffing shall be performed on asbestos tiles that have not been sealed or finished in some manner. Dry buffing shall be performed only after sufficient coats of sealer or finish have been applied to protect the tile from being disturbed. It is recommended that the least abrasive pad possible be used to protect against breaking through the finish and disturbing the surface of the tile.
7. If during buffing an asbestos tile is dislodged or broken, stop work and call your supervisor immediately to schedule the proper clean up of the tile.
8. Stripping of asbestos tile floor tile shall be done wet. At no time will dry stripping be allowed. If during the stripping procedure the tiles become dislodged, notify your supervisor immediately.
9. During buffing or stripping the least abrasive pad should be used at a speed no greater than 300 rpm.

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