

TIPS FOR CLEANING LEAD DUST



Cleaning Tools

- Plastic or rubber gloves that can be thrown away after each use.
- Plastic trash bags
- Two (2) or three (3) plastic buckets
- A spray bottle
- Lint-free rags or paper towel that can be thrown away after each use
- Any general purpose cleaning product will work. Do not use bleach
- Industrial vacuum with a HEPA filter, known as a HEPA vacuum.

Cleaning with carpets

- **Wall-to-wall carpets:** Vacuum the rug using an industrial HEPA vacuum ONLY. Vacuum the rug slowly from the corner furthest from the door toward the door. steam cleaning rugs is also an option
- **Area rugs:** Begin vacuuming at the top of the rug with a HEPA vacuum as described above. Next, fold the rug in half and vacuum the back of the rug and floor normally. Do the same to the other half of the rug.
- **Scatter rugs:** Wash scatter rugs in a washing machine. Do not put any clothes in the washing machine with the scatter rugs.



Cleaning without carpets?

- **Wet cleaning:** This cleaning method is for wood floors, windowsills, window wells, counters, radiators, and all children's toys. A wet rag is best for windowsills and window wells. Toys can be cleaned in the sink or tub. To wet clean, fill one bucket with water and cleaning solution and another bucket with plain water. Use a different cleaning rag or paper towel in each bucket. Once you clean the surface, rinse it with a new rag or paper towel using just plain water. Empty and rise the buckets and refill for each room you clean.



Prevent lead poisoning before you can't

To find out more, contact the Connecticut Department of Public Health Lead and Healthy Homes Program at 860-509-7299. Or, call the East Hartford Health Department at 860-291-7324.

Warning: Pregnant women must not clean up lead dust because it can harm developing fetus. You must use an industrial HEPA vacuum ONLY. Do not use an ordinary vacuum. Before you begin, remove children and pets from the room being cleaned. Wear old clothes and plastic gloves. Consult the Connecticut Department of Public Health or your local health department for more information on how to clean lead dust safely.