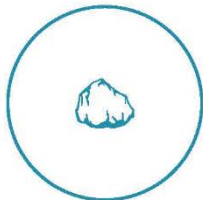




## Collecting Asbestos Samples

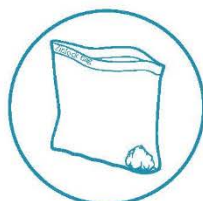
### Asbestos Sample Testing



Collect your sample piece

Asbestos fibres are hazardous to health and exposure to them should be kept to a minimum.

**MMG does not recommend or advise untrained personnel to sample suspected Asbestos Containing Material (ACM). In addition, until a test is carried out on a material, it should be presumed to contain Asbestos.**



Put into a snaplock bag

This form provides a simple protocol for suspected ACM sampling and handling. This guide outlines safety steps necessary to minimise the risk of exposure to asbestos fibres. Meta Maya Group recommends following the advice contained within this form.

If you require additional assistance or would prefer one of MMG's licensed assessors\* to collect a sample we can arrange this, call our Customer Service Team for more information and bookings on 1300 928 963 or email [enquiries@metamaya.com.au](mailto:enquiries@metamaya.com.au). (\*additional fees apply)



Double bag your sample/s

MMG's highly skilled and experienced professionals will happily answer any questions and our NATA accreditation means you can be confident with your answers and analytical results every time.

#### MMG offer:

- Inspection, re-inspection and consulting service
- Sampling services
- NATA accredited laboratory testing services
- In-house laboratory testing to save you time and money
- The highest quality customer service and stringent quality assurance
- Fast turnaround for result delivery
- Easily accessible location
- Professional, highly skilled and experienced scientific experts and laboratory technicians



Drop them in for testing

#### Is collecting your own sample safe?

Trying to identify the presence and type of asbestos is very difficult by simply looking at a sample. Laboratory testing is the only way to determine whether Asbestos is present in a material. MMG holds NATA accreditation to give you peace of mind that you are receiving the world's highest standard for testing.



Fill in required paperwork

#### Before collecting your sample:

- Turn off any fans that could potentially blow fibres around in the air (i.e. air conditioning, heating any oscillating fan, including ceiling and floor standing)
- When outdoors samples should only be collected on non-windy days
- Make sure no one else is nearby when you collect your sample
- Do not cause too much damage or disturbance to the material when taking the sample: just to remove a small piece.
- Before sampling, have everything you need at the ready



Receive report via email



### Equipment Required:

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) i.e. suitable face mask and disposable overalls
- Disposable gloves, paper towel, cloth, wet-wipes etc. re-sealable plastic bags (i.e. “Snaplock” sandwich bags: minimum required is two), marker pen, craft knife or pliers, spray bottle of water and detergent

### Note:

Wear disposable gloves while collecting the sample; (remove inside out and throw away after use), wash hands thoroughly after collecting the sample. Ensure appropriate respiratory protective equipment is worn in accordance with manufacture specifications and instruction guide; throughout the collection process if possible, wear disposable overalls.

### Instructions:

- Place a plastic sheet on the floor below the sample point to catch loose debris that may fall off during collection
- Use a spray bottle containing water mixed with a few drops of detergent to moisten the sample point, this will help to lessen the amount of debris/fibres released
- Using a craft knife or similar, carefully remove a piece from the entire depth of the material
- A small sample size (approximately the size of a 20-cent piece). For harder materials such as “Fibro Cement”, take a piece from a corner or edge.
- Put the sample into a re-sealable bag, seal it and write the following information on the bag:
  - **Your name, contact phone number, the location and date the sample was collected.**
- Each sample should be in its own bag and do not mix sample types (i.e. soil and “Fibro-Cement”)
- Put all of the samples into another re-sealable bag i.e. all samples are ‘double bagged’.
- Use a damp paper towel, cloth or wet-wipe to clean up associated material on the outside of the bag.
- Dispose of the plastic sheet and any towels, cloths or wet-wipes used
- Dispose of all potentially contaminated material according to State, Territory and local procedures

### Asbestos is categorised into two groups “Friable” and “Non-friable” (Bonded)

#### Non-Friable: (Bonded)

When dry: Cannot be crumbled, pulverised or turned to powder by hand pressure. Although collecting samples from “non-friable” materials has the potential of exposure to asbestos fibres, if the appropriate precautionary steps are followed, the risk is significantly less than “Friable Asbestos” samples.

*Example: Roof sheeting, fencing, floor tile*

*Sample size required size of a 20c piece*

