

# Common Sources of Lead Poisoning

Connecticut Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control Program  
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**L**ead-based paint was banned for use on housing in 1978. Therefore, homes built before 1978 may contain lead-based paint. Lead-based paint can chip, peel and/or produce lead dust.

## Lead Paint may be found on:

- Doors
- Door Frames
- Fences
- Floors
- Furniture
- Porches
- Stairs
- Toys
- Railings
- Walls
- Window wells
- Window sills
- Woodwork

## Soil and Dust

*Soil and dust can become contaminated with lead. This contaminated soil and dust can be carried into your home. Dust is often contaminated in the home by lead-based painted surfaces that are chipping and/or peeling.*

### How it becomes contaminated:

- Home remodeling (sanding, scraping, and burning lead-based paint)
- Weathering and chipping lead-based paint
- Emissions from factories
- Past use of leaded gasoline
- Solid waste from industries

## Water

### How water becomes contaminated:

- Lead water pipes
- Plumbing fittings made out of brass and bronze
- Lead solder used to connect plumbing (banned in 1986)

FACT SHEET



## Food

### Food can become contaminated if it is:

- Grown near heavily traveled roads contaminated by leaded gasoline or lead pollution
- Grown near buildings painted with lead-based paint
- Stored or baked in pottery and dishes with lead glaze or lead crystal
- Packaged in imported cans with lead solder seams (banned in U.S. cans)

\* Plastic bags used to package bread, baked goods, and other foods are often printed with inks containing lead. If reusing the bag, be sure the printing stays on the outside and not in contact with the food.

## Occupations and Hobbies

Work and hobbies can expose people to lead. Your children can be exposed when work clothes are worn home and laundered with the family laundry or when scrap and waste materials are brought home.

### Occupations that may involve lead exposure to adults include:

- Painters
- Lead Refiners
- Construction Workers
- Battery Manufacturing/ Recycling Workers
- Smelters
- Auto Body Workers
- Bridge Workers
- Remodelers
- Mechanics
- Renovators
- Aircraft and Ship Manufacturing Workers
- Plumbers

### Hobbies that may involve exposure:

- Artistic Painting
- Stained Glass Making
- Ceramics/Pottery Making
- Home Renovations
- Jewelry Making
- Homemade Products (fishing sinkers, ammunition)
- Indoor Firing Ranges

## Other Sources

Some ethnic and folk remedies or medication may contain lead, as well as some imported cosmetic products (i.e., surma and kohl) Do not use these.

### Some remedies containing lead are:

- Alarcon
- Greta
- Alkohl
- Liga
- Azarcon
- Pay-oo-ah
- Bali Goli
- Rueda
- Coral
- Ghasard

Some imported mini-blinds and imported crayons may also contain lead. Read the packages for this information.

Some herbs and spices brought into the U.S. from other countries may contain lead.



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