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Asbestos Awareness Week 2020:

Asbestos lurks in more places than you'd think.

Do you know if your home was built before the 1990s there's a good chance it has some asbestos?

Do you know it's often found under flooring, as part of kitchen splashbacks or even in the garden? [change locations as desired]

National Asbestos Awareness Week 2020 reminds Australians to be asbestos aware before starting any work around the home - because it lurks in more places than you'd think.

Know the risks.

Don't risk the possible health effects of asbestos exposure.

Asbestos becomes dangerous once the fibres are disturbed, become airborne and then inhaled. This can happen if you're sanding, drilling, cutting or sawing asbestos-containing materials.

Asbestos is a known carcinogen and inhaling asbestos fibres can cause a number of life-threatening diseases including pleural disease, asbestosis, mesothelioma and lung cancer.

Asbestos-related diseases cause approximately 4,000 deaths a year - three times the annual road toll.

Be aware of where asbestos might be in your home.

Asbestos was used in hundreds of building materials, commonly found in bathrooms, laundries, and kitchens as well as behind tiles and under flooring [change locations as suits audience].

Find out where asbestos might be here [link to your state's asbestos website here – see below for URL addresses]

Watch this video about asbestos in the home here. [https://vimeo.com/446981826]

Call for some advice and help

Thinking about a summer renovation? Make sure you're aware of where asbestos might be found so you know how to stay safe.

Just like plumbing and electrical work, asbestos removal – or jobs around the home that might uncover asbestos - are jobs best left to the experts.

This Asbestos Awareness Week we are calling on Australians to **know** the health risk, be **aware** of where asbestos might be found before starting work, and **call** a professional for advice and help.

State and Territory Asbestos Websites to insert above:

NSW www.asbestos.nsw.gov.au VIC www.asbestos.vic.gov.au/ QLD www.asbestos.qld.gov.au

TAS www.worksafe.tas.gov.au/asbestos-safety

ACT: www.asbestos.act.gov.au SA www.asbestos.sa.gov.au

WA www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/asbestos-frequently-asked-questions

NT www.asbestos.nt.gov.au