



Cleaning up lead in the home Wet washing

Follow these directions to give your home a deep cleaning to remove lead dust. Once you have cleaned in this way, clean your floors, windowsills, door trim and baseboards with a damp rag or mop once a week.

Step 1: Prepare before you clean

Put on gloves and pick up any paint chips on the floor or around windows. A damp rag, paper towel or baby wipe may help you pick up these pieces. Throw away the chips and dirty rags in a plastic bag. Vacuum the floor - vacuums with HEPA filters work best. "Allergen" vacuum bags are the next best choice if you don't have a HEPA vacuum. Do not use a broom as it will spread lead dust around.

Step 2: Mix your wash water

Fill a wash bucket half full with warm water. Mix in a household detergent, following the directions on the bottle.

Step 3: Wash the woodwork and floors

Start by washing the woodwork around windows, doors and baseboards with disposable rags or paper towels wet with the wash water. Be sure to work from top to bottom. Once a rag is dirty, throw it out. Change the water when it becomes dirty. Dump dirty water into the toilet.

Step 4: Wash the floors

Using a new mixture of wash water, wash the floors with a mop or clean rags. When finished, discard wash rags and dump the dirty water into the toilet.

Step 5: Rinse and clean up

Fill a clean bucket with water. Dip clean rags into the water and wipe all the woodwork that you washed. Using new rinse water, mop or wipe the floors. When you are finished, dump the rinse water into the toilet and clean the mop and bucket. Throw away your gloves, rags, and place the garbage bag in the trash.

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801-538-6191

<https://epht.health.utah.gov/epht-view/topic/ChildhoodBloodLead.html>

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