

Popcorn Ceiling Removal

If you own a home or business that was built in the 1960s or 70s, you may be faced with acoustic or popcorn ceiling removal. Acoustic or popcorn ceilings were very popular in or around those years and for good reason. These types of ceilings were very decorative, they provided excellent insulation and a good sound barrier, and as a result the construction industry made it a standard practice to use these types of ceilings in millions of homes across the country.

What has become evident is that many people across the country are not happy with these types of ceilings and to make things worse, a lot of the ceilings that were applied before 1970 contain asbestos materials. Because of this, popcorn ceiling removal has almost become an industry within itself. There are professional services that specialized in acoustic and popcorn ceiling removal specifically because of the asbestos hazard all by itself.

If your home was built before 1970 there is a good chance your acoustic or popcorn ceiling will contain asbestos materials and will require the services of a professional for removal. This can be done by yourself 'but not recommended' provided you are up-to-date on all the hazardous material guidelines and instructions that pertain to proper disposal. After 1970 most of the acoustic and popcorn ceilings that were applied do not contain asbestos materials therefore making it easier for a person to make a decision to do it themselves.

To test whether or not your acoustic or popcorn ceiling contains asbestos materials, there is an easy process that can be used to have samples tested to confirm their presence. You can remove a very small sample of your popcorn ceiling and send it to an 'EPA certified testing lab' to have it checked for asbestos materials. Another option is to purchase an asbestos testing kit from your local hardware store and test the sample yourself. The second option is not all-inclusive, and if your sample doesn't test positive, in actuality, it could still contain small amounts of asbestos.

Once you have determined that your popcorn ceiling either contains or doesn't contain asbestos you can take the next step. If your ceiling contains hazardous materials the proper step at this point would be to hire a professional popcorn ceiling removal service. If your ceiling does not contain hazardous materials, depending on the price for the professional service, you may want to tackle the job yourself. Popcorn ceiling removal will require extensive work as well as valuable time, and if you are not prepared, you could have a large mess on your hands.

Popcorn ceiling removal will consist of using water, scrapers, plastic sheeting, and lots of tape. Your walls and floors will need to be entirely covered using your plastic sheeting and tape. Once everything has been adequately covered, you will then spray your popcorn ceiling using a spray bottle filled with water. Once this has soaked in, you can use your scraper to scrape away the acoustic or popcorn ceiling material onto the plastic sheeting below. Once your job has been completed, you simply have to dispose of the material in the proper manner. Popcorn ceiling removal is not difficult; however, can be dangerous if the proper methods and testing are not

performed before hand.