

# Reduce Lead Hazards Through Cleaning

## How to Clean Windows and Other Hard Surfaces:

### What You'll Need:

- Trash Bags
- Swiffer Wet Mop
- Multi-purpose Wipes
- Swiffer Wet and Dry Wipes
- Kitchen Gloves

### Step 1 - Declutter to Make the Cleaning Process Easier and More Efficient.

Remove unwanted items and clear items from floors and organize into piles.

### Step 2 - Identify Areas that Need Cleaned:

Look for chipping or flaking paint and visible dust in high traffic areas. Focus on areas where your children spend the most time.

### Step 3 - Time to Clean:

Your goal is to remove any paint chips and visible dust you can see on the woodwork around windows, doors and on baseboards. Finish up by mopping the floors.

- Attach a wet wipe to the Swiffer mop and keep more close by for easy replacement.
- Wearing gloves, look for visible paint chips, use a multi-purpose wipe to collect them and throw them away.
- Next, use a multi-purpose wipe to clean walls from the ceiling to the floors. Start at the farthest corner of the room and work toward the door.
- Replace the wipe as it becomes dirty, then throw it away in a trash bag.
- For windows, use multi-purpose wipes for all window parts. Include the tops of the window sashes, interior and exterior windowsills, trough area and grids (if present). Working your way from top to bottom. Use a fresh new wipe for each window, placing dirty wipes in a trash bag as you go.
- Next up, doors. To clean doors, use a new multi-purpose wipe to clean all painted or varnished parts of the door, jamb and threshold, if present.
- Then, wipe all baseboards with a new multi-purpose wipe.
- Continue wiping surfaces until all visible dust and paint chips are gone.
- When mopping floors, use a new wet mop wipe in each room, and replace as needed when it becomes dirty.
- Continue mopping until all visible dust and paint chips are gone.



*\* Photo is representative of the products you will receive but may be different quantities and manufacturers.*

### Step 4 - Wrapping Up Safely:

- Place all used multi-purpose wipes, wet and dry mop wipes and worn gloves into a trash bag. Tie it securely and place it in your collection bin.
- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water

### Step 5 - Prevention & Other Helpful Reminders:

- Children are often exposed to lead dust through normal hand-to-mouth activity. Wash toys and frequently handled items, such as pacifiers, sippy cups, and teething aids, frequently with warm, soapy water.
- Before coming inside, remove shoes and leave them in a designated spot by the door. Keep a rug by the entrance to avoid tracking outdoor dirt and dust inside.
- Don't forget about your pets! Wipe paws and fur before they enter the house to prevent lead tracking.
- Keep multi-purpose wipes handy to periodically clean areas around windows and doors, especially in rooms where children spend time. Remember to use a clean wipe on each window and discard it in the trash.
- Lastly, reduce clutter so it's easier to notice visible signs of potential lead contamination, such as chipping paint, and easier to clean as well.

**SCAN ME to watch a video on how to clean possible lead hazards**



**\*Remember to use a clean wipe on each new surface to prevent spreading lead dust.**



**Department of  
Health**

Childhood Lead Poisoning  
Prevention Program

# Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention





## Lead Speak



### When a child starts walking, their world expands.

They explore by touching and putting things into their mouths. Think about this... If you live in a home that was built prior to 1978, children under 6 years old could be at risk.

### How Much Lead Dust Does It Take to Poison a Child?

Let's pretend this sugar packet contains lead dust. Now, spread the dust all throughout a 1,500 square foot (or a 3 bedroom) home. That's enough lead dust to poison a child in that home!

Lead dust is created when lead based paints wear down from repeated friction or impact, such as opening or closing windows and doors.

Lead dust settles quickly, is difficult to clean up, and is invisible to the naked eye. Young children usually are poisoned through normal hand-to-mouth activity, as lead dust settles on their toys and the floor.



# Cleaning to Remove Lead Dust

## Focus On Areas Where A Child Spends Most Of Their Time.

### Tip: Get down at a child's eye level to see what they see.

- Look for chipping or flaking paint (pictured). Deteriorated lead-based paint will chip off and looks blocky like alligator skin.
  - If you find some, use the cleaning kit, wet cleaning methods or a professional HEPA vacuum to collect paint chips from windowsills or window troughs. Place paint chips and used wipes in a trash bag and tie off. Discard with regular trash.
- Look for **high traffic areas with friction and impact surfaces** like floors, doors, and windows. Opening a window creates dust!
  - Look for **visible dust**, especially in windowsills and window wells. Dust created by windows going up and down will collect there and could fall to the floor below.
    - If you see dust, use Clorox wipes from cleaning kit until wipe is clean OR Tide packet in bucket of water with disposable towels. Place in trash bag. Discard with regular trash.
- Check the main entry doors and interior doors of your home. Do you see deteriorated paint? Do the doors open/ close smoothly or stick? Do you see marks on the door where it's rubbing the door jamb? Look all around the edges of the door and the top and all sides of door jamb and stops.
- Does the porch have deteriorated paint?
  - If yes, keep paint chips cleaned up and don't let a children play in the area until properly repaired. Clean floors near entryways often and remove shoes at the door.
- Is there bare soil outside? Contaminated soil and dust can be tracked into your home. Clean floors near entrances often using wet cleaning methods and leave your shoes at the door!

### Don't Spread the Lead!

- Always use proper cleaning methods. See cleaning instructions that were provided with your cleaning kit or check with the HEPA vacuum loaner program nearest you. Visit our website: <https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/lead-licensure-and-accreditation-program/hepa-vacuum-loaner-program> and download the contact list.
- If remodeling, repairing or painting, ALWAYS work lead safe. See EPA's guidance on Renovate, Repair and Paint for homeowners. Visit EPA website: <https://www.epa.gov/lead/lead-safe-renovations-diylers>.

