

A Little Dust Goes a Long Way

- You can't see it.
- It's hard to sweep up.
- And, it travels.

One gram of lead-based paint can contaminate a large area!

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1-6

A little dust goes a long way.

- **You can't see it.** Even a floor that looks clean can have leaded dust on it. Only a laboratory test can tell you for sure if an area is contaminated with lead.
- **It's hard to sweep up.** Normal cleaning methods will not pick up all the dust in a work area. Sweeping is not enough. You need to use water, detergent and a HEPA vacuum to clean up dust effectively.
- **It travels.** Once dust is released, it is easily tracked around, inside and outside the work area. And, an exterior painting job can contaminate the inside of a home as the dust, chips and leaded soil are tracked inside.

Later in this course we will discuss in detail the EPA and HUD dust-lead hazard and clearance standards. The limits are included here to reinforce the idea that a very small amount of lead can cause health problems. These numbers represent the amount of lead measured in micrograms (1 millionth of a gram) that is allowed in an area one foot wide and one foot long (one square foot). More than this amount of lead in the specified areas is hazardous.

EPA & HUD use these standards when clearance is performed:

•Floors	• 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$
•Interior window sills	•250 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$
•Window troughs	•400 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$

NOTE: States and localities may enforce lower standards.