

Bulk material sample collection guide

Type of material	Area of homogeneous material*	Minimum number of bulk samples to be collected**	Minimum recommended quantity per sample
Surfacing materials, including textured coatings, drywall mud, plasters, and stucco	Less than 90 m ² (approximately 1,000 sq. ft.)	At least 3 samples of each type of surfacing material	50 cm ³ (3 cu. in.); for drywall mud, sample the mud only — do not include the drywall or tape
	Between 90 and 450 m ² (approx. 5,000 sq. ft.)	At least 5 samples of each type of surfacing material	
	Greater than 450 m ²	At least 7 samples of each type of surfacing material	
Sprayed insulation and blown-in insulation, including sprayed fireproofing	Less than 90 m ² (approx. 1,000 sq. ft.)	At least 3 samples	50 cm ³ (3 cu. in.)
	Between 90 and 450 m ² (approx. 5,000 sq. ft.)	At least 5 samples	
	Greater than 450 m ²	At least 7 samples	
Loose vermiculite insulation (including vermiculite insulation within concrete masonry units, or CMUs)	Less than 90 m ² (approx. 1,000 sq. ft.)	At least 3 samples	4 L (1 gal.); collect from the top to the bottom of the application to get a representative sample
	Between 90 and 450 m ² (approx. 5,000 sq. ft.)	At least 5 samples	
	Greater than 450 m ²	At least 7 samples	
Ceiling tiles	Less than 90 m ² (approx. 1,000 sq. ft.)	At least 3 samples	5 cm x 5 cm (2 in. x 2 in.)
	Between 90 and 450 m ² (approx. 5,000 sq. ft.)	At least 5 samples	
	Greater than 450 m ²	At least 7 samples	
Flooring, including vinyl sheet flooring (and backing) and floor tiles	Any size	At least 1 sample per flooring type in each room (and 1 from each layer of flooring)	5 cm x 5 cm (2 in. x 2 in.)

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Levelling compounds and mortars	Any size	At least 3 samples	50 cm ³ (3 cu. in.)
Asbestos ropes, gaskets, wires, etc.	Any size	At least 1 sample	5 linear cm (2 linear in.) or 5 cm x 5 cm (2 in. x 2 in.)
Mechanical insulation, including duct taping, pipe insulation, elbows, and boiler/tank or vessel insulation	Any size	At least 3 samples	50 cm ³ (3 cu. in.); all layers must be collected down to the pipe, tank, or vessel
Mastics and putties, including duct mastic (around penetrations) and window putty	Any size	At least 3 samples	15 cm ³ (1 cu. in.)
Roofing materials, including felting and shingles	Less than 90 m ² (approx. 1,000 sq. ft.)	At least 1 sample (each layer of material must be sampled)	5 cm x 5 cm (2 in. x 2 in.); collect all layers, down to the sheathing
	Between 90 and 450 m ² (approx. 5,000 sq. ft.)	At least 2 samples (each layer of material must be sampled)	
	Greater than 450 m ²	At least 3 samples (each layer of material must be sampled)	
Asbestos cement (transite) board and pipe	Any size	At least 1 sample	5 cm x 5 cm (2 in. x 2 in.)
Other sprayed materials	Any size	At least 1 sample per type of material	1 full, small Ziploc bag
Other non-friable products	Any size	At least 1 sample per type of material	5 cm x 5 cm (2 in. x 2 in.)

* Homogeneous material is considered uniform in texture and appearance, was installed at one time, and is likely to be of only one type of material or formulation.

** If the material is assumed to contain asbestos, samples do not have to be collected. The professional judgment of a qualified person can be used to reduce the number of bulk samples of homogeneous materials. If fewer samples than the minimum recommended number are collected, surveyors should document the rationale for their position in the survey report.