

Bulk Material Sample Collection Guide

Source: Safe Work Practises for Handling Asbestos 2012 (p.27)

Type of material	Area of homogeneous material*	Minimum number of bulk samples to be collected**
Surfacing materials, including textured coatings, drywall mud, plasters, and stucco	Less than 90 m ² (approximately 1,000 ft ²)	At least 3 samples of each type of surfacing material
	Between 90 and 450m ² (approximately 5,000 ft ²)	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 and vermiculite insulation (including vermiculite insulation within concrete masonry units, or CMUs)	Less than 90 m ² (approximately 1,000 ft ²)	At least 3 samples
	Between 90 and 450 m ² (approximately 5,000 ft ²)	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)
Mechanical insulation, including duct taping, pipe insulation, elbows and boiler/tank insulation	Any size	At least 3 samples
Mastics and putties, including duct mastic (around penetrations) and window putty	Any size	At least 3 samples
Roofing materials, including felting and shingles	Less than 90 m ² (approximately 1,000 ft ²)	At least 1 sample (each layer of material must be sampled)
	Between 90 and 450 m ² (approximately 5,000 ft ²)	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
Other materials	Any size	At least 1 sample per type of material

* Homogenous 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.