


<b>POLICY:</b> <b>VINYL ASBESTOS TILE - REMOVAL</b>			<b>NUMBER:</b> WP-5
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<b>PREPARED BY:</b>  Facilities Management (FM)	<b>AUTHORIZED BY:</b>  Andrew Konowalchuk	<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b>  Work Procedure	<b>EFFECTIVE:</b> November 11, 2024  <b>SUPERSEDES:</b> July 1, 2015

## **APPLICATION**

Removal of existing vinyl asbestos floor covering.

## **PREPARATION OF WORK AREA**

1. Remove and/or protect furnishings and other surfaces which would be difficult to clean.
2. Schedule work when other occupants of the area are absent or arrange for them to be relocated.

## **WORKER PROTECTION**

Don appropriate level of respiratory protection.  
 Don Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), if desired.

## **WORK PROCEDURES**

1. Begin the removal in the area of least traffic.
2. Carefully wedge a wall scraper in the seam of two adjoining tiles and gradually force the edge of one of the tiles up and away from the floor.
3. Attempt to remove individual tiles as a complete unit.
4. Well adhered tile(s) may be removed by striking the scraper handle with a hammer.
5. Well adhered tile(s) may also be removed by thoroughly heating the tile(s) with a hot air blower until the heat penetrates through the tile and softens the adhesive. If tiles cannot be removed with a heat gun, worker should use amended water.
6. Place tiles into a box as they are removed and bag the box in a 6 mil yellow asbestos bag. Place the yellow asbestos bag into a clear 6 mil bag and secure with tape. Do not attempt to break tiles after they are in the box.
7. As small areas of sub-floor are removed of tile, scrape up the remaining adhesive with a hand scraper until only a thin smooth film remains.
8. Heat areas where deposits are heavy or difficult to scrape with the hot air blower prior to scraping.
9. Deposit scrapings in 6 mil yellow asbestos bags.
10. All material for disposal to be sealed in 6 mil bags, labelled to indicate contents, and taken to the designated asbestos disposal bin.
11. Wash hands at completion of work period.

## **NOTE:**

Do not sand or scrape existing resilient tile flooring, backing, or lining felt. These products may contain asbestos fibres that are not readily identifiable.

Do not dry sweep residues of tile. Instead use water or vacuum equipped with HEPA filter.

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**RESOURCES**

**WP-12: O Reg 278 05 Type-1 Operations**

- [https://uwo.ca/fm/pdf/policies/work\\_procedures/WP-12\\_O\\_Reg\\_278\\_05\\_Type\\_1\\_Regulation.pdf](https://uwo.ca/fm/pdf/policies/work_procedures/WP-12_O_Reg_278_05_Type_1_Regulation.pdf)