



ASBESTOS FIREPROOFING REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT PROCEDURES

A building permit is required for removal of asbestos where the fire-resistive protection of structural elements is altered by such removal or reapplication of fireproofing. The fireproofing removal and reapplication work may be included with alteration or remodeling permits. Separate permits for asbestos removal and reapplication of fireproofing may be obtained, however, both permits must be issued concurrently.

A plan shall be submitted to the department for review and approval. The plan must show the entire floor area, with a north arrow at the top, area(s) undergoing abatements, all exit locations and include the following:

1. Time Schedule for:
 - a. Asbestos removal and reapplication of fire-resistive materials on structural elements.
 - b. Date of completion of reapplication of fireproofing not to exceed 15 days from completion of asbestos removal and not more than 30 days from commencement of asbestos removal.
2. Asbestos fireproofing shall not be removed on adjacent floors simultaneously. The floor immediately above and below the floor undergoing asbestos removal shall have all fireproofing in place.
3. 24-hour fire safety watch shall be provided under the procedures established by the Fire Department.
4. Asbestos warning signs shall be posted as required by the Fire Department and CAL/OSHA.
5. All exits shall remain clear and unobstructed. Location of exits shall be clearly posted with signs. Exits covered with plastic shall meet Fire Department requirements.
6. All materials used in the removal of asbestos shall be non-combustible or fire retardant. Approved coatings may be applied on wood members in order to be classified as fire retardant. Polyethylene film shall have a maximum flame-spread index of 75 and smoke density of 300.
7. Existing fire sprinkler systems shall remain operable. Existing fire detection and alarm systems shall remain operable and fire alarm pull stations shall be clearly indicated by signs. Any alteration to the system must be approved by the Fire Department and the Department of Building and Safety.

Exception: Smoke detectors may be deactivated upon approval by the Fire Department.

8. Air testing shall be conducted whenever asbestos removal is occurring, or upon request of the Department of Building and Safety. Testing shall be done by an independent testing laboratory. The laboratory shall successfully participate in the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and Proficient Analytical Testing (PAT) programs. The results of the air testing shall be signed by a State-certified Asbestos Consultant (California Business and Professions Code Sec. 7180 (a) and 7181). One copy of this report shall be posted at the site entrance and in addition, one report shall be submitted to the inspector and maintained in the inspection file.
9. Details of the reapplication of fireproofing shall be provided including the following:
 - a. Specifications for the fireproofing material.
 - b. Schedule of beams, floors, etc. that need the fire protection material and specification of minimum thickness of fire protection material required.
 - c. Indication of any continuous inspection and testing required.
10. Plans shall be signed by a California licensed Civil Engineer, Structural Engineer, Fire Protection Engineer, or Architect.
11. If the area of work involves 100 sf or more of surface area of asbestos containing material, asbestos-related work shall be performed by a contractor holding a current Certificate for Asbestos Abatement Work per Sec. 7058.5 of the California Business and Profession Code.

For other requirements, see Information Bulletin No. P/BC 2023-067 “Asbestos Notification for Demolition/Alteration Permits” and Division 10 of the Los Angeles City Fire Code.