

LEAD DUST in Imported Mini-Blinds

Some imported plastic/vinyl mini-blinds that were made before 1997 can be a lead hazard, and many of these blinds are still found in homes.

Lead dust has been found in these blinds. Over time, with the sunlight and heat, these mini-blinds can release more lead dust.

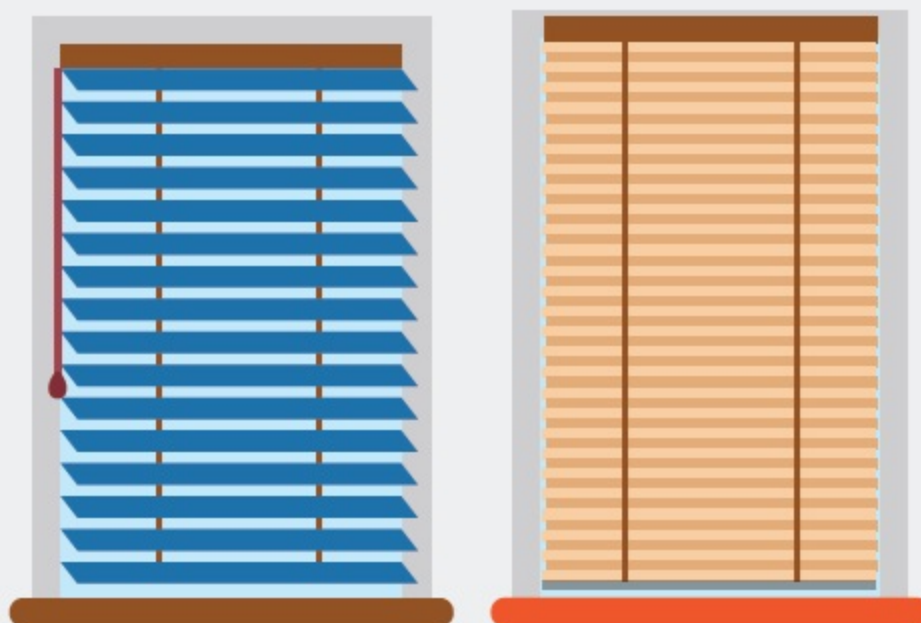
Because of the danger of lead dust, it is recommended that imported mini-blinds made before 1997 be removed from the home.

LEAD HAZARD

HOW DO I KNOW IF I HAVE VINYL/PLASTIC MINI-BLINDS?

- Are the brackets that hold your blinds plastic?
- Do your blinds spring back when you bend them?
- Can light be seen through the blinds?

If you checked 1 or more boxes, you probably have vinyl blinds.
Vinyl blinds will either crack or spring back.
Metal blinds will stay bent. Check using a flashlight.
Light can be seen through vinyl blinds.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR BLIND REMOVAL

PREPARE



Clean rags, or paper towels, plastic trash bags, duct tape



Wear a pair of disposable gloves



Mist blinds and window with water

CLEAN UP

- Wipe wet blinds with rag or paper towel.
- Slowly draw up blinds and remove blind from window bracket.
- Put blind in trash bag.
- Clean window area.
- Wash entire window area with an all-purpose cleaner
- Place dirty rags or paper towels and gloves in the trash bag with blinds.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**I am renting my home.
What should I do?**

If you are not sure about the blinds in your home, talk to your landlord.

**I am going to buy new blinds.
What should I get?**

Blinds should be labeled as “No Lead Added” or “Non-Leaded Formula” or “Lead Free”.

For more information and resources, contact the NM Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

1-833-796-8773 · DOH-CLPPP@doh.nm.gov

<https://NMTracking.doh.nm.gov>

