

Lead-Safe Work Practices

HEPA Vacuums

Whether conducting lead abatement activities or lead safe work practices, contractors should only use a “TRUE HEPA” vacuum cleaner. A true HEPA vacuum has a few features that most vacuum cleaners do not have, including:

- (1) A HEPA filter that is individually tested and rated as 99.97 % effective and capable of collecting lead dust down to 0.3 microns in size
- (2) “O” rings or seals to prevent leakage around connecting points
- (3) Manufacturer specifications stating that the HEPA vacuum is designed to collect lead dust.



How to Choose

True HEPA vacuum cleaners designed specifically for lead dust collection range from \$250 to over \$500. Manufacturers selling vacuums designed for lead will usually blatantly advertise that their product is suitable for working with lead and other hazardous substances. A key feature to look for when selecting a vacuum is replaceable components (such as motors and hoses) as this will extend the lifetime of the vacuum and allow it to serve as a better investment. The cost of replacement HEPA filters or cartridges is also worth evaluating as this can increase the cost of ownership over time.

Vacuum Dealers

Best Vacuum, Inc.

<http://www.bestvacuum.com/>

(888) 205.3228

Blue Lake Products

http://www.bluelakeproducts.com/atrx_abatement_vacuums.htm

(800) 257-3477

EnTech Supply

<http://www.entechsupply.com/>

(800) 221-4785

Go HEPA

<http://www.gohepa.com>

(866) HEPAVAC

Parish Supply

<http://www.parish-supply.com>

(800) 836-0862

Tiger Vac

<http://www.tiger-vac.com/>

(800) 668-4437

