Lead is a poison. It can affect almost every part of the body. High levels of lead can cause joint and muscle pain, high blood pressure and memory loss. Very high levels of lead can cause fits, coma and, in extreme cases, death. Your body can get rid of only small amounts of lead every day. If more lead is entering your body than can be removed, it will build up over time causing health problems.

Lead effects of lead:
- Brain and memory loss
- Reduced IQ
- Infertility
- Stunted growth
- Liver and kidney damage
- Spleen
- Blood and bone damage
- Testes and ovaries - no effect

Sources of lead:
- Lead paint
- Plant and equipment protective coatings
- Domestic paint used in many houses built before 1970
- Anti-corrosive paints
- Road-marking and sign-writing paint
- Marine paints
- Lubricants

How Lead gets into your body:
- Ingested contaminated food and drink
- Inhaled lead dust and fumes
- Absorbed through the skin
- Inhalation

Building products that contain lead:
- Lead solders
- Flashing and sheet lead
- PVC products
- Lead pipe and plumbing fittings
-some types of oil and grease

Examples of lead risk jobs:
- Archers
- Builders
- Carpenters
- Cement makers
- Demolition workers
- Electricians
- Roofers
- Tilers
- Shoplifters

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