

Restoration Health & Safety

WMMF Ph 6

Safe Working Practice

- Always wear appropriate PPE
- Ensure good ventilation
- No eating or drinking in workshop.
- Wash hands after handling chemicals.
- Keep work area tidy.
- Follow Data instructions for chemicals.
- Keep Data sheets in case of accident.
- Use dust extraction when sanding.
- Do not store mixed solutions in normal drinking bottles always label well.

Hazard and Control Measures

Hazard	Risk	Control Measures	PPE Required
Wood dust	Breathing problems, allergies	Dust extraction, vacuum sanding, good ventilation	Dust mask (P2/P3), goggles
Lead-based paint	Poisoning	No dry sanding, wet methods, extraction	Respirator, gloves
Chemical strippers	Burns, fumes, poisoning	Use in ventilated area, sealed storage	Gloves, goggles
Solvents & finishes	Fire, inhalation	No naked flames, lids closed	Gloves, mask

Hazard and Control Measures

Hazard	Risk	Control Measures	PPE Required
Power tools	Injury, electric shock	Trained in use	Goggles, ear protection
Heat guns	Burns, fire	Fire extinguisher, 1 st Aid kit, burn gel	Heat-resistant gloves
Heavy furniture	Back injury, crushing	Team lifting, trolleys	Safety footwear
Oily rags	Fire	Store in metal bins	None
Slips & trips	Falls	Clean floors, tidy workspace	Non-slip shoes
Sharp hand tools	Cuts	Use correct technique, tool storage	None or cut-resistant gloves

Fire Safety

Many products used in restoration are **highly flammable**, including:

- White spirit
- Paint thinner
- Furniture polish
- Oily rags
- **Store chemicals in sealed containers (never drinking bottles)**
- Keep away from heaters
- Lay oily rags flat to dry or store in metal containers (they can **self-ignite**)

Cleaning, Striping or Dismantling

Old furniture can contain toxic substances such as:

- Lead-based paint
- Shellac, varnish, or lacquer
- Mold spores and wood dust
- **Always**
- Wear a P2 or P3 dust mask / respirator
- Use safety goggles
- Wear gloves. Wash hands after handling chemicals and **before eating**
- Sand or strip in well-ventilated areas
- Use dust extraction or a vacuum sander if possible

- **Never blow dust off with your mouth or compressed air — it spreads toxins, spores and beetle eggs into the air.**