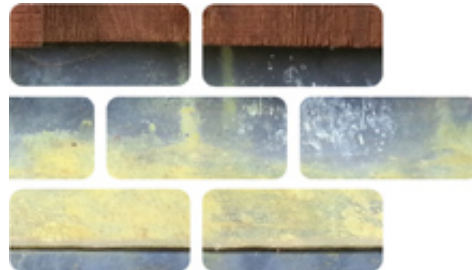


## M17 LEAD



Lead is a natural element that is a soft, ductile and malleable metal that is also considered a heavy metal which is poisonous if ingested. Lead is a bright and silvery metal that tarnishes when in contact with air, giving it a grey-blue appearance. It is a high value commodity when compared to some other metals. Lead is fashioned into various products of varying quality and finish to suit functional and architectural purposes. This DRIDS does not include lead batteries.

Lead Metal 17 04 03

## WASTE STREAMS

### DISPOSAL

Disposal of lead should never be considered.

### RECOVERY

There are no options for the recovery of lead.

### RECYCLE

Lead can be readily recycled as there is a very strong market for these materials to be used as a feedstock for new products, not necessarily for construction.

### RECLAIM

Lead tiles, sheets, architectural salvage and ornamental features in reusable condition, uncontaminated and of economic and heritage value may be set aside for reuse. There is a strong and high-value market for reclaimed materials, especially those with architectural importance or value.

## USAGE & PROBABLE LOCATIONS

Lead in building construction is generally functional and used in various styles and sizes of water pipes, roof sheets, roof flashings, gutters, tank linings, downpipes and both architectural and ornamental features. It is also used in ironmongery, sanitary ware, fixtures, fittings and garden features. It is mostly found in plumbing, on roofs and in gardens.

## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

PPE requirements indicated are for guidance purposes only. DRIDS has identified the PPE that is mandatory on all demolition projects and ones that may be required subject to site specific Risk Assessment & Method Statement (RAMS).



## REMOVAL, SEGREGATION & STORAGE

Lead that is destined for reuse should be deconstructed, segregated and stored carefully and safely, to ensure its integrity and good condition. Roofing products and ornamental features should be stored flat or in bundles to prevent warping. They should also be stored away from plant movements to prevent damage. Lead destined for recycling need less attention to detail and should be segregated into a separate metal recycling skip. There is little need to store lead inside a building or under cover as they are robust.

## TOOLS

Hammer, crowbar, jemmy bar, hacksaw, screwdriver, spanners, soldering tools, chisel, bolt croppers, slater's ripper, slater's axe, 360.

## FIXTURES, FITTINGS & CONNECTIONS

Lead pipes, flashings, roofing sheet, downpipes and gutters have been traditionally fixed in place with brackets, screws and lead strips. Roof flashings, gutter joints, downpipe collars and tank linings may be sealed with solder, bitumen, putty or mastic. Lead tiles are mostly nailed or lead-wedged in place. Lead roof sheets are usually moulded into place, tacked lightly and the joints soldered or crimped. Lead water pipes, gutters, downpipes, roof tiles and roof sheets are rarely painted as they are robust and resistant to weather.

## HEALTH & SAFETY

**Subject to task-specific Risk Assessment & Method Statement (RAMS).** Use correct protective equipment for removing screws, nuts and brackets. Wear gloves at all times when handling lead products to prevent irritation, cuts and metal splinters. Do not smoke or touch mouth until hands have been thoroughly washed. Wear eye protection when using hand tools. Do not walk on wet tiles or roof sheets. Only use harness protection at height as a last resort. Only use soldering or cutting tools if properly trained.

## FURTHER READING

Designing out Waste  
Demolition Code of Practice  
Deconstruction and Reuse  
Reuse of Lead Architectural Features  
Reuse of Lead Products  
British Lead Recycling  
British Metal Recyclers On-line  
London Scrap Metal Recycling  
EMR Metal Recycling  
Sims Metal Management

## TRAINING

Working at Height  
Manual Handling  
Safe Use of Hand Tools  
Safe Use of 360 Plant and Attachments