

# Other Sources of Lead

The most common sources of lead are paint, dust, soil, and water. Other sources include:

## Traditional Remedies/Cosmetics

### In Asian, African, & Middle Eastern communities:

As a cosmetic or a treatment for skin infections or umbilical stump.

- alkohl, kajal, kohl, or surma (black powder)

### In Asian Communities:

For intestinal disorders.

- bali goli (round flat black bean)
- ghasard/ghazard (brown powder)
- kandu (red powder)

### In Hmong Communities:

For fever or rash.

- pay-loo-ah (orange/red powder)

### In Latino Communities:

- Some salt-based candies made in Mexico

For abdominal pain/empacho.

- azarcon (yellow/orange powder), also known as: alarcon, cora, coral, liga, maria luisa, and rueda
- greta (yellow/orange powder)

### In South Asian (East Indian) Communities:

For bindi dots.

- sindoor (red powder)

As a dietary supplement.

- Ayurvedic herbal medicine products

## Hobbies

May also include some of the occupations listed in the right column.

- Bronze Casting

- Collecting, Painting or Playing Games with Lead Figurines
- Copper Enameling
- Electronics with Lead Solder
- Firing Guns at a Shooting Range
- Hunting and Target Shooting
- Jewelry Making with Lead Solder
- Liquor Distillation
- Making Pottery and Ceramic Ware with Lead Glazes and Paints
- Making Stained Glass and Painting on Stained Glass
- Melting Lead for Fishing Sinkers or Bullets or Lead Figurines
- Painting/Stripping Cars, Boats, and Bicycles
- Soldering
- Print Making and Other Fine Arts (When Lead White, Flake White and Chrome Yellow Pigments are involved)
- Remodeling, Repairing, and Renovating Homes

## Occupations/Industries

- Ammunition/Explosives Maker
- Auto Repair/Auto Body Work
- Battery Manufacturing and Repair
- Bridge, Tunnel and Elevated Highway Construction
- Building or Repairing Ships
- Cable/Wire Stripping, Splicing or Production
- Ceramics Worker (Pottery, Tiles)
- Construction
- Firing Range Work
- Glass Recycling, Stained Glass and Glass Work
- Industrial Machinery/Equipment
- Jewelry Maker or Repair
- Junkyard/Salvage Employee
- Lead Abatement
- Lead Miner
- Leaded Glass Factory Worker



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- Manufacturing and Installation of Plumbing Components
- Manufacturing of Industrial Machinery and Equipment
- Melting Metal (Smelting)
- Metal Scrap Yards and Other Recycling Operations
- Motor Vehicle Parts and Accessories
- Occupations Using Firearms
- Painter
- Paint/Pigment Manufacturing
- Plumbing
- Pottery Making
- Pouring Molten Metal (Foundry Work)
- Production and Use of Chemical Preparations
- Radiator Repair
- Remodeling/Repainting/Renovating Houses or Buildings
- Removing Paint (Sandblasting, Scraping, Sanding, Heat Gun or Torch)
- Salvaging Metal or Batteries
- Steel Metalwork
- Tearing Down Buildings/Metal Structures
- Welding, Burning, Cutting or Torching

### Miscellaneous

- Antique/Imported Toys
- Chalk (Particularly for Snooker/Billiards)
- Imported Candy
- Imported Crayons
- Imported Pottery
- Non-Commercially Prepared Pottery
- Non-Commercially Prepared Leaded Crystal
- Some Children's Jewelry

### Where can I get more information?

For more information about lead please contact the Lead Program at the Minnesota Department of Health. You can call us at (651) 201-4620, visit our website at

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/lead>, or write us at the address listed on the front of this fact sheet.