

# Hazardous Materials Removal Workers

SOC: 47-4041 • Career Profile Report

## ■ Key Facts

\$48,490

Median Salary

51,300

Employment

+1.0%

Growth Rate

## ■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: High school diploma

## ■ Automation Risk Assessment

**Medium Risk** - 35.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job has some routine elements but still requires human judgment and interaction.

## ■ Work-Life Balance

**6.2/10** - Good work-life balance

## ■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	9.4/10	Investigative	5.8/10
Artistic	4.0/10	Social	5.0/10
Enterprising	5.0/10	Conventional	6.0/10

## ■ Top Skills Required

Decision-making skills, Detail oriented, Mechanical skills, Physical stamina, Physical strength

### ✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

### ■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

## ■ What They Do

Hazardous Materials Removal Workers typically perform the following tasks:

- Build containment areas prior to beginning abatement or decontamination work.
- Remove asbestos or lead from surfaces, using hand or power tools such as scrapers, vacuums, or high-pressure sprayers.
- Identify asbestos, lead, or other hazardous materials to be removed, using monitoring devices.
- Prepare hazardous material for removal or storage.
- Comply with prescribed safety procedures or federal laws regulating waste disposal methods.
- Load or unload materials into containers or onto trucks, using hoists or forklifts.
- Clean contaminated equipment or areas for reuse, using detergents or solvents, sandblasters, filter pumps, or steam cleaners.
- Remove or limit contamination following emergencies involving hazardous substances.
- Clean mold-contaminated sites by removing damaged porous materials or thoroughly cleaning all contaminated nonporous materials.
- Operate machines or equipment to remove, package, store, or transport loads of waste materials.
- Record numbers of containers stored at disposal sites, specifying amounts or types of equipment or waste disposed.
- Sort specialized hazardous waste at landfills or disposal centers, following proper disposal procedures.
- Operate cranes to move or load baskets, casks, or canisters.
- Drive trucks or other heavy equipment to convey contaminated waste to designated sea or ground locations.
- Identify or separate waste products or materials for recycling or reuse.
- Upload baskets of irradiated elements onto machines that insert fuel elements into canisters and secure lids.
- Process e-waste, such as computer components containing lead or mercury.
- Organize or track the locations of hazardous items in landfills.
- Mix or pour concrete into forms to encase waste material for disposal.
- Apply bioremediation techniques to hazardous wastes to allow naturally occurring bacteria to break down toxic substances.

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Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/construction-and-extraction/hazardous-materials-removal-workers.htm>