



# Be silica smart

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[swa.gov.au/clearlungs](https://swa.gov.au/clearlungs)

Stakeholder pack | July 2026

*This phase of Be Silica Smart is being delivered in partnership with the Asbestos and Silica Safety and Eradication Agency.*





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## 1 Key messages

# General

- Safe Work Australia's *Be Silica Smart* campaign aims to raise awareness of the work health and safety risks of silica dust and educate employers on how to identify, assess and manage silica-related risks in their workplaces.
- Employers and workers are encouraged to *Be Silica Smart* by learning about silica dust risks and taking practical steps to keep workplaces safe.
- Be Silica Smart. Access information and resources at: [swa.gov.au/clearlungs](http://swa.gov.au/clearlungs).
- Information is available in English, Mandarin, Arabic, Vietnamese, Korean and Hazaragi.



1

Key messages

## About silica

- Respirable crystalline silica (silica dust) is a work health and safety hazard.
- Silica dust is produced when materials containing silica such as natural or artificial stone, bricks, concrete or tiles are cut, drilled, polished or ground.
- It can also be produced during mining and tunnelling activities, including excavation, earthmoving and drilling.
- Silica dust particles can be so small they can lodge deep in the lungs and cause permanent damage, including serious and fatal diseases such as silicosis and lung cancer.
- Workers in industries such as construction, manufacturing, tunnelling, demolition, mining, quarrying and stonemasonry can be exposed to silica dust at work.
- Employers have a legal duty to protect workers by managing the health and safety risks from silica dust. Workers also have a legal duty to take reasonable care of their own, and others, health and safety at work.
- Specific work health and safety regulations apply to working with materials containing 1% or more crystalline silica.



## 1 Key messages

# Resources

- Find easy-to-understand information and practical resources on Safe Work Australia's [Be Silica Smart website](#), including fact sheets and posters to help manage silica dust risks.
- The [model Code of Practice: Managing the risks of working with crystalline silica substances](#) provides guidance to help employers meet work health and safety (WHS) requirements and protect workers.
- State and territory WHS regulators can provide further information on how silica-related laws apply in each jurisdiction.
- The Asbestos and Silica Safety and Eradication Agency also provide practical resources and additional information through its [silica safety website](#).



## 2 Social media assets

[Click here](#) to download the social media assets





### 3 Posters

[Click here to download the posters](#)

**Protect yourself and your workers**

Understand the risks and how to control them.

If you work with stone, bricks, concrete, tiles or other silica containing materials, you may be breathing in harmful silica dust.

[swa.gov.au/clearlungs](http://swa.gov.au/clearlungs)

**Be silica smart**

**CLEAN AIR. CLEAR LUNGS.** safe work australia

safe work australia ASB ASBESTOS AND SILICA SAFETY **CLEAN AIR. CLEAR LUNGS.**

**How silica dust is produced at work**

- excavation, earth moving and drilling plant operations
- clay, sand and stone processing machine operations
- cutting, polishing or grinding natural and artificial stone
- cutting and laying pavers and surfacing
- mining, quarrying and mineral ore treating processes
- road construction and tunnelling
- construction, building and demolition
- brick, concrete, tile or stone cutting
- abrasive blasting
- foundry casting
- angle grinding, jack hammering and chiselling of concrete or masonry
- hydraulic fracturing of gas and oil wells
- pottery making
- crushing, loading, hauling and dumping rock or tunnelling waste
- mechanical screening, and
- clean-up from these activities (sweeping, air blowing).

more about silica and how to manage risks at work: [swa.gov.au/clearlungs](http://swa.gov.au/clearlungs)

**Be silica smart**

**Protect yourself and your workers**

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**Be silica smart**

**CLEAN AIR. CLEAR LUNGS.** safe work australia ASB ASBESTOS AND SILICA SAFETY

safe work australia ASB ASBESTOS AND SILICA SAFETY **CLEAN AIR. CLEAR LUNGS.**

**Silica dust is a work health and safety hazard**

If you work with materials containing silica, you may be breathing in harmful dust

Find silica information in: English 简体中文 العربية Tieng Viet ភាសា កម្ពុជា 한국어

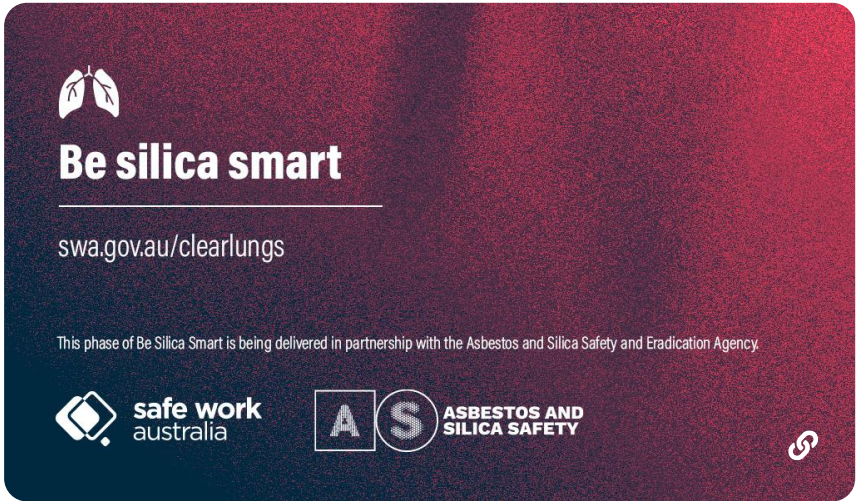
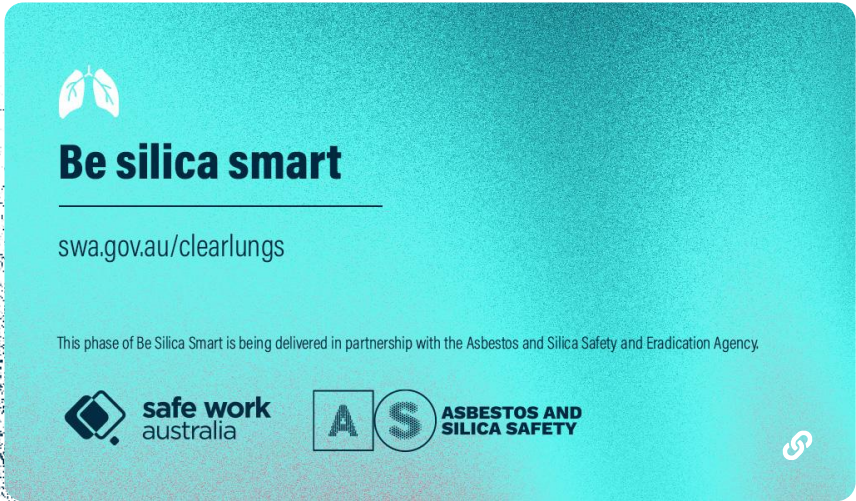
**Be silica smart**

[swa.gov.au/clearlungs](http://swa.gov.au/clearlungs)



## 4 Email assets

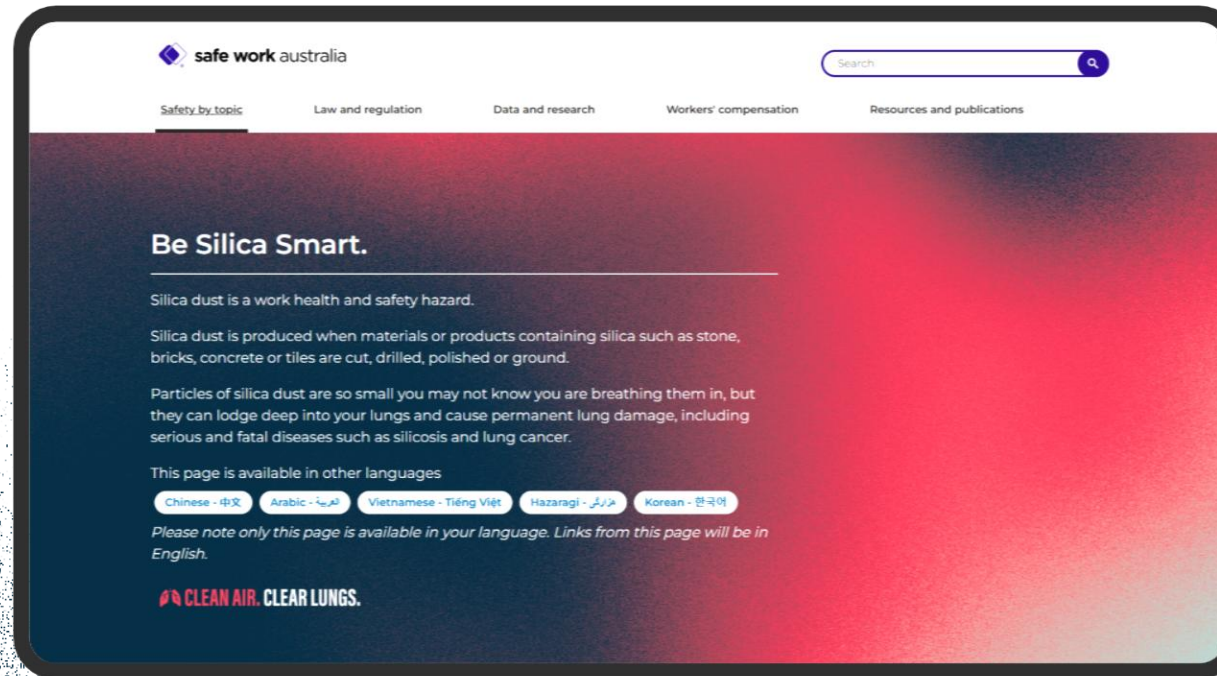
[Click here to download these assets](#)





## 5 Be Silica Smart website

[Click here](#) to view the campaign website




Visit our [‘Be Silica smart’ webpage](#) for practical guidance and resources on managing silica risks in the workplace. Information for employers and workers is available in English, Mandarin, Arabic, Vietnamese, Korean and Hazaragi.



## 6 Translated information






### Translated information available

Find silica information in:

English 简体中文 العربية Tiếng Việt هزارگی 한국어

 safe work australia swa.gov.au/clearlungs

The Be Silica website explains:

- what silica dust is
- why it is harmful, and
- how to work safely and manage health and safety risks.

Find information about silica in:

- [English](#)
- [Mandarin - 简体中文](#)
- [Arabic - العربية](#)
- [Vietnamese - Tiếng Việt](#)
- [Korean - 한국어](#), and
- [Hazaragi - هزارگی](#).



## 7 More information

- [Be Silica Smart campaign website](#)
- [Model Code of Practice: Managing the risks of working with crystalline silica substances](#)
- The Asbestos and Silica Safety and Eradication Agency - [Silica safety website](#)



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