**IKEA FAQ**

**LEAD**

What is lead?

Lead is a chemical element and a highly toxic heavy metal, found in small amounts in the earth’s crust.

Can lead affect my health?

Yes. Lead may accumulate in the body. Different lead compounds show different negative health effects for humans.

Does IKEA avoid the use of lead?

Our aim is to refrain from the use of chemicals and substances such as lead that can be harmful for humans or the environment. For this reason, IKEA banned the use of lead in fittings in 2009 and in mirror backings in 2010.

Do IKEA fittings contain lead?

Lead in fittings was banned by IKEA in 2009 and gradually phased out during 2010. The old fittings were never hazardous to touch, since lead in fittings will not be absorbed through the skin and will not enter the body.

What should worried customers do?

There is no need to worry. Customers should always feel confident that products bought at IKEA are safe and healthy to use. IKEA products must not contain any harmful chemical substances. They shall fulfil all legal requirements, but they shall also fulfil, or even exceed, customer expectations. Whenever possible, IKEA takes the strictest existing legal requirements and applies them globally on all products on all our sales markets.

IKEA works precautionary and has phased out several chemicals that could potentially be harmful, often ahead of legislation.