

# **Background**

Cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) is a high-temperature, flexible, polymer pipe. Cross-linking technology was first developed in Europe 35 years ago and has been used around the world for a variety of applications.

PEX pipe was introduced into the North American market in 1984 due to the success in Europe with extensive testing for durability and material performance.

The PEX piping industry is highly regulated. The letter designations of PEX Pipe are *not* related to any type of rating system. All PEX pipe must meet the same qualification requirements as specified in the PEX Standards. Continuous use temperature ratings as high as 200°F (93°C) are required as well as standardized chlorine resistance testing to ensure that the piping will withstand the most aggressive drinking water conditions.

# **SharkBite PEX**

SharkBite PEX is an economical solution meeting the highest chlorine resistance standards and utilizing the most energy efficient manufacturing process in Cullman, AL. SharkBite PEX can bend up to 6 times the outside diameter of the pipe which is the maximum bend radius recommended by PEX pipe manufacturers and can be used in a wide variety of applications including:

- Fire suppression systems (residential fire sprinklers)
- Municipal water service pipe for use in underground applications
- Radiant floor heating systems for suspended floor systems or in slab construction
- Snow and ice melt systems for sidewalks, driveways, entrances, and ramps
- Turf conditioning for greenhouses, golf courses, and sports fields
- Water reuse and reclamations systems





# Benefits of SharkBite PEX Compared to Copper

# **Health/Safety**

No glues, solder, or solvents to assemble which keeps potentially dangerous chemicals out of plumbing systems. No open flames in the house that could be a fire hazard. SharkBite PEX has no risk of copper traces in water from breakdown of pipe that has been linked to heart disease and Alzheimer's.

#### **Chlorine Resistance**

SharkBite PEX pipe is rated at highest chlorine resistance with testing of 100% chlorine at 140°F.

# **Noise Reduction**

SharkBite PEX piping dampens rushing water noise making a quieter plumbing system so no more pipes that sing, whistle, or make clunking noises in the wall or under the floor.

# **Theft Proof**

Elimination of theft concerns as you have with copper pipe.

#### **Freeze Resistance**

SharkBite PEX piping will not burst in freezing conditions like metal piping will, which causes costly repairs.

### **Durability**

Unlike metal piping, SharkBite PEX is immune to corrosion and mineral build-up which maintains the bore size for consistent and full water flow. SharkBite PEX piping is not affected by electrolysis which can cause small pin hole leaks in copper piping.

## **Energy Efficiency**

SharkBite PEX requires less energy to produce and has an overall lower carbon footprint compared to copper.

# **Cost Effective**

SharkBite PEX pipe is substantially lower in cost than copper pipe—a half inch SharkBite PEX tubing costs about a third the price of copper. SharkBite PEX pipe is a fixed cost as prices don't fluctuate daily like copper pipe.

# **Speed of Installation**

The connections with a SharkBite PEX system (especially with SharkBite push to connect fittings) are quicker to make than soldering copper.

# **Water Efficiency**

SharkBite PEX plumbing systems retain more heat in hot water lines and resist condensation on cold water lines.

#### **Proven & Guaranteed**

SharkBite PEX piping has been around for more than 35 years with over 12 billion feet of tubing installed worldwide, and is backed by a 25 year warranty. (In 2013, SharkBite PEX Pipe produced could have run the width of Alabama at its widest point more than 100 times.)

#### **Flexibility**

Able to bend pipe around corners which removes the need for 45° or 90° elbows in certain situations.

## **Versatility**

SharkBite PEX can be installed in dry or wet conditions. SharkBite PEX piping can lend itself to many applications due to its physical properties of flexibility, reliability and installation ease such as hydronic heating, fire protection, etc.

# Made in the USA

SharkBite PEX is manufactured in Cullman, AL.