



Underground Frequently Asked Questions

1. Can I use HOME-FLEX® Underground pipe inside my home?
 - a. No. Polyethylene gas pipe, no matter who manufactures it, is not to be used in a building or under a foundation with a structure on it. Not only is it against all codes, it is potentially dangerous.
2. When installing PE underground gas pipe, is it alright to sweep it to the surface to make my final connections?
 - a. No, all yellow gas pipe needs to be at or below code-mandated burial levels. The yellow poly pipe should never be above grade.
3. Can underground PE gas pipe be used for propane applications?
 - a. Yes. It is certified for use with Propane as well as Natural Gas.
4. Can I take apart HOME-FLEX® Underground fittings if I need to make adjustments or changes to my system?
 - a. Yes. Unlike some push-to-connect fitting manufacturers, our underground fittings can be disassembled and reused.
5. After my system is complete and before final burial, how long must the system be pressure-checked and at what psi?
 - a. We recommend you check the entire system for 30 minutes at 15psi. Overnight testing is not recommended due to “false positives” that may result from temperature and barometric changes.
6. Can I use your CSST brass fittings with your Underground pipe?
 - a. No, they are completely different product lines and are not compatible.
7. Do I need to wrap HOME-FLEX® Underground parts prior to burial?
 - a. No, the product line is purpose made for direct burial and does not need to be wrapped nor put in a conduit.
8. Do I have to chamfer your gas poly pipe prior to installation of your fittings?
 - a. No. Unlike some push-to-connect gas fitting manufacturers, our gas pipe does not need to be chamfered prior to installation of its compression-type fittings.
9. I currently have yellow pipe marked as “CTS”. Can it be used with your underground fittings?
 - a. CTS means “copper tubing size” which is significantly different than “IPS” (iron pipe sizing) which is most prevalent in the underground gas category today. So, even though your pipe may say “1/2” CTS” it will not work with 1/2” IPS pipe fittings.
10. Does HOME-FLEX® offer an IPS/CTS conversion fitting?
 - a. Yes. We have a 1/2” IPS to CTS conversion fitting. Part number 18-429-101. No other sizes are currently available.
11. The code mandated burial level for my installation is 18” and I have limited room above surface. Can your riser be cut down to accommodate my installation?
 - a. No, the riser may never be altered. The PE end may be cut slightly shorter. We suggest you dig the trench deeper under the riser to adjust your installation level.
12. Can I use your underground fittings with another manufacturer’s pipe?
 - a. Yes, so long as the pipe and fitting sizes are the same. All manufacturers of D2513 poly pipe are held to the same dimensional and material standards.

13. What is “SDR”?
 - a. This means “standard dimension ratio” It is the ratio of a pipe’s average outside diameter to its minimum wall thickness. If adding to an existing underground gas installation, always ensure that SDR dimensions are the same (mostly SDR-11 (1/2” is usually SDR-9.3)).
14. Can your underground pipe be fusion welded?
 - a. Absolutely! Please check out our fusion guide in the “resources” section of the homeflex.com website.
15. Can I use PVC fittings with your underground gas pipe?
 - a. No, they are dissimilar materials and cementing/bonding would be an issue. Further, they are not certified for use together.
16. How do I know what size pipe I need for my installation?
 - a. One must know the lineal length of the entire installation. You must also know the total btu/h of all appliances drawing off the gas piping system and, finally, you’ll have to know the system pressure and capabilities of your natural gas meter or LP tank regulator. Once those factors are determined, check out the sizing guides in our Design & Installation Manual available at homeflex.com.
17. I want to transition from black pipe to yellow underground poly pipe. Can I do that with your underground products?
 - a. Absolutely. We have all sizes of transition fittings and meter risers (1/2” through 2”) that will enable you to make that metal-to-poly transition. Further, we recently introduced a new conversion fitting in 1/2”, 3/4” and 1” sizes. Check out part numbers 18-436-005, -007, and -010 at homeflex.com or at homedepot.com.
18. How much pressure will your underground pipe and fittings handle?
 - a. Typically, underground gas systems run at 1/4-10psi and are stepped down to 1/4 psi for natural gas and 1/2 psi for LP gas via a regulator either upon entry to the home or at the individual appliances. Our underground pipe is rated for a maximum of 80 psi and our fittings are rated for a maximum of 125 psi. All spec/submittal sheets are available in the “resource” section of homeflex.com.
19. What is tracer wire used for?
 - a. This is a 14-gauge or thicker wire that is installed beside the poly pipe prior to burial. It extends to the surface and is wrapped or zip-tied around the riser. A detection service can connect their equipment to the wire and determine the underground routing of the gas pipe prior to digging. HOME-FLEX® tracer wire is available at homedepot.com (model # 18-TW100/250/500).