

Flexible PVC pipe should be used in accordance with the following guidelines:

NEVER to be used where there is a constant "dead head" pressure. Deadhead pressure is when you have the pump running and no place for the water to go. Constant deadhead pressure may balloon the pipe and eventually it may fail or cause joint failure. The pressure ratings given are for flowing pressure situations. Typical okay uses are: swimming pools, spas, hot-tubs, whirlpool bathtubs, irrigation (after the valve), ponds, drainage, conduit, suction applications, etc. As long as there is flow in the pipe you should be fine within the rated specifications.

NEVER to be used for residential or commercial potable (drinking) water for humans. While white FlexPVC does have an NSF-51 rating, it is not suitable for potable (NSF-61, drinking) water applications. There is nothing toxic in the pipe, but it will pick up a "plastic taste" if water sits in it for several hours. This is the only reason it doesn't have a potable water rating: it can't pass the taste test. Same for black or gray. Neither can be used for potable drinking water. For livestock and fish it is perfectly acceptable.

Should not be used with "booster pumps" applications. I.e., two pumps in series. In such situations, the flow stops and then starts repeatedly, it produces a "hydraulic hammer" effect and the glue joints may eventually fail. Standard swimming pool pumps are fine, booster pumps in addition to a standard pump are not. Note: the pipe itself rarely fails. In fact, we've never seen the pipe burst; the fitting connection is where it will fail. If really want to use flexible pvc pipe in high pressure or "critical" situations you can use Extra Deep Couples which have double the socket depth.

If the pipe is buried in the ground with large sharp rocks, sometimes the rocks can rub a hole in the pipe. Keep this in mind when burying pipe. Back-fill with sand or screen out the large sharp rocks. Standard gravel, pea gravel, sand, Type II, topsoil, etc are all fine for backfill.

It is not resistant to insects, in particular, termites have been known to eat it. Research has shown flexible PVC does not attract termites, however if flexible pvc is placed in between a termite nest and a food source, they may try to eat their way through it. (They are too dumb to go around it.) FlexPVC.com will not be responsible for failure due to insect damage, nor rocks rubbing against the pipe and wearing a hole in it. You can lace your backfill and trenches with boric acid to reduce the likelihood of termites, but it won't last forever. If you have termite infestation and want to use Flexible PVC pipe, you should retreat your trenches every few years to be safe, just like you do your house, garage, etc.

FlexPVC is not suitable as a flue for furnaces or heaters. The high heat causes the pipe to become soft and will collapse upon itself, possibly causing a kink in the pipe and then obstructing the airway.