



## RWC PEX-a Kink Repair Protocol

RWC does not recommend the practice of “hot bending” PEX-a tubing to create a tighter bend radius. For a tighter bend radius, RWC recommends the use of a HoldRite bend support. In the event RWC PEX tubing has gone beyond the factory recommended bend radius specified in the Piping Systems Installation Guide and a kink occurs, cut out the kink using PEX tubing cutters and follow RWC factory installation instructions for a new section of pipe and connections.

If this is not possible, you can repair a kink in RWC PEX-a tubing using a heat gun. To do so properly, use the following steps:

### 1. Shut off water:

Before starting any repairs, shut off the water supply and relieve the pressure to the affected section to avoid water leakage.

### 2. Identify the kink:

Locate the area of the PEX tubing where the kink is present. Straighten the PEX tubing and remove any stress.

### 3. Prepare the heat gun:

For best results, use a heat gun with adjustable temperature to avoid damaging the PEX tubing. Set the heat gun to a low or medium heat setting. Do NOT use an open flame.

### 4. Heat the kink:

Gently heat the kinked area with the heat gun, moving it back and forth and around the tubing to evenly distribute the heat. Be careful not to overheat (above approximately 335°F) or apply any pressure to the repair area as it can cause damage to the PEX tubing.

### 5. Remove the kink:

As the PEX exceeds the crystalline temperature approximately 270°F (approximately 450 watts of power), hold the tubing straight and carefully rub a wet cloth over the heated section to cool down the tube. The pipe will be hot, so take precautions to avoid burning yourself while you cool the tubing.

### 6. Allow pipe to cool:

Once the kink has been removed, let it cool down.

### 7. Inspect the repair:

After the PEX has cooled, check the repaired area to ensure the tubing has returned to its original shape and is free of any remaining kinks or irregularities. The heated section may be slightly expanded because of the dimensional calibration performed during manufacturing. This does NOT affect the tubing performance. Because of RWC UV coating, you may also notice slight discoloration of the tube. This does NOT affect the performance of the PEX tubing.

### 8. Turn on water:

Once you are satisfied with the repair, turn the water supply back on and check for any leaks or issues.

