The chemical resistance of ABS pipe also makes it suitable for many industrial applications.
1. PRODUCT NAME
Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS) Plastic Pipe and Fittings for Drainage, Waste and Vent Systems

2. MANUFACTURER
For a list of member manufacturers, contact the Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association, 800 Roosevelt Road, Building C, Suite 312, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137; phone: (630) 858-6540; fax (630) 790-3095; website: www.ppfahome.org.

3. PRODUCT DESCRIPTION
Basic Use: Sanitary drainage, waste, and vent systems and storm drainage systems. ABS pipe can be used in residential, commercial, and industrial applications. Pipe and fittings are joined by solvent cementing. There is a full complement of ABS drainage pattern fittings available for DWV applications. Pipe and fittings are available in sizes 1-1/4 inch through 6 inches in diameter.

Composition and Materials: ABS is a thermoplastic material made with virgin ABS compounds meeting the ASTM requirements of Classification 4-2-2-2-2 (pipe) 3-2-2-2-2 (fittings) per ASTM D3965. Pipe is available in both solid wall and cellular core wall. These can be used interchangeably.

Grades: ABS pipe is identified as Schedule 40 pipe. This indicates the wall thickness of the pipe. The pipe can also be installed above or below grade.

Limitations: ABS pipe is intended to be used in any conventional sanitary drainage or storm drainage system. Contact the pipe manufacturer for a detailed list of chemicals that can be satisfactorily discharged through ABS pipe. Plastics are affected by ultraviolet (U/V) radiation. Pigments are added to the ABS to make pipe and fittings resistant to degradation. Pipe and fittings may be exposed to sunlight during construction; however, prolonged exposure is not advised. ABS pipe and fittings can withstand the normal temperatures encountered in a sanitary and storm drainage system. The recommended maximum temperature for continuous drainage applications is 140° F.

4. TECHNICAL DATA
Applicable Standards: ABS, for DWV applications, conforms to either ASTM D2661, ASTM F628, ASTM F1488 or CSA CAN/CSA B181.1. ASTM D2661 specifies requirements for solid wall pipe. ASTM F628 specifies requirements for pipe having a cellular core. ASTM F1488 specifies requirements for composite ABS pipe. Solid wall ABS fittings conform to ASTM D2661 or CSA CAN/CSAB181.1. Dimensions for drainage pattern fittings up to 8” size are shown in ASTM D3311.

As an alternative to ABS cellular core pipe, co-extruded composite pipe has been introduced. This product consists of ABS inner and outer layers with a cellular core made of PVC resin. Pipe consisting of this composition shall be certified and marked in accordance with ASTM F1488. ASTM F1488 requires that co-extruded composite pipe be marked with ASTM F1488, size and description indicating the construction of the pipe such as ABS/PVC/ABS cellular core where the cellular core is made from PVC material.

Quality Control. ABS material, pipe and fittings meet or exceed the quality prescribed by nationally recognized standards. In addition to production quality controls, independent third party certifying agencies inspect and ensure standard conformity. Agencies that provide third party certification include the Canadian Standards Association (CSA), IAPMO–R&T Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC), NSF International (NSF), and Underwriters Laboratories (UL).

Laying Lengths: ABS pipe is available in 10- and 20-foot lengths. Laying lengths for common fittings are identified in Tables 1 and 2.

In Canada, ABS pipe is also available in 12-foot lengths.
**Expansion and Contraction:** ABS pipe has a higher expansion and contraction rate than metallic pipe. The coefficient of linear expansion for ABS plastic is 0.0000560 in/in/°F. The rate translates into an expansion of 1.34 inches for every 20 feet with a temperature change of 100°F.

For composite pipes made to the ASTM F1488 standard, the manufacturer of the pipe should be contacted for the linear expansion rate. Expansion and contraction rates can run 20% less than for core PVC and ABS pipe.

Where ABS pipe is subjected to severe temperature fluctuations, provisions for expansion and contraction must be provided. This can be accomplished with the use of expansion joints and offset piping arrangements or by making provisions at changes in direction.

**Hangers and Supports:** ABS pipe must be supported horizontally at 4-foot intervals or per the local code. Support vertical piping at every floor level. Install hangers and supports to allow for thermal expansion and contraction.

**Fire Protection:** ABS pipe and fittings are combustible materials; however, they may be installed in buildings that require non-combustible construction. In all cases the model building codes have determined that ABS piping must be protected at penetrations of fire resistance rated wall, floor, and ceiling, assemblies. The method of protecting the pipe penetration is by a through penetration protection assembly that has been tested and rated in accordance with ASTM E814.

The important rating is the “F” rating for the through penetration protection assembly. The “F” rating must be a minimum of the hourly rating of the fire resistance rated assembly that the ABS plastic pipe penetrates. Verify local code interpretations related to through penetrations with the jurisdiction having authority. These companies manufacture firestop systems and materials:

- 3M Fire Protection Products
  3M Center
  Bldg. 207-1S
  St. Paul, MN 55144-1000
  (800) 328-1687

- Hilti Inc.
  5400 S. 122nd E. Ave.
  Tulsa, OK 74121
  (800) 879-8000

- PFP Partners (Fire Stop Systems Inc.)
  1412 Derwent Way
  Delta, British Columbia
  V3M6H9
  (800) 810-1788

- ProSet Systems
  1355 Capital Circle
  Lawrenceville, GA 30243
  (800) 262-5355

- RectorSeal®
  2601 Spenwick Drive
  Houston TX 77055
  Tel: 713-263-8001 / 800-231-3345

- Specified Technologies
  200 Evans Way
  Somerville, NJ 08876
  (800) 992-1180

5. **INSTALLATION**

**Preparatory Work:** ABS pipe must be cut square with a wheeled cutter, miter saw, or power saw designed for that use. Pipe ends must be deburred and wiped clean and dry.

**Methods:** Solvent cement, conforming to ASTM D2235, is used per local jurisdiction.

**Precautions:** Joining of ABS pipe and fittings should be performed in well-ventilated locations. Contact of solvent cement with the skin must be avoided. Eye protection is recommended during solvent cementing. See ASTM F402 for more safe handling details.

Protect pipe from coming in contact with sharp objects or building materials. Care must be exercised to avoid rough handling or abrasion of the pipe and fittings. ABS plastic pipe should not be installed in areas subject to high heat sources.
**Plumbing Codes:** ABS pipe is permitted to be used in any sanitary drainage, waste, and vent system and storm drainage system in the following model plumbing codes: IPC, UPC, and NSPC.

Verify acceptance and installation of ABS piping systems with local code enforcement authorities having jurisdiction.

6. **AVAILABILITY & COST**

*Availability:* ABS pipe and fittings are available through local plumbing supply wholesalers throughout the United States and Canada.

*Cost:* ABS plastic pipe is less expensive than metallic piping materials used in sanitary and storm drainage systems.

7. **WARRANTY**

ABS pipe and fittings manufacturers generally warrant that pipe and fittings are free from defects and conform to the designated standard. The warranty is only applicable to pipe and fittings installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s installation instructions. The manufacturer of the pipe and fittings is not responsible for improper use, handling, or installation of the product.

8. **MAINTENANCE**

Standard drainage system chemicals and equipment can be used.

9. **TECHNICAL SERVICES**

The manufacturers of ABS plastic pipe and fittings will provide technical manuals and engineering data upon request.

10. **MORE INFORMATION**

Additional product information is available upon request from the Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association, 800 Roosevelt Rd., Building C, Suite 312, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 (630) 858-6540; fax (630) 790-3095; website: [www.ppfahome.org](http://www.ppfahome.org).

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**TABLE 1: LAYING LENGTHS (IN.)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pipe Size</th>
<th>1/4 Bend</th>
<th>Long Sweep</th>
<th>1/8 Bend</th>
<th>1/6 Bend</th>
<th>1/16 Bend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/4</td>
<td>1 1/16</td>
<td>2 1/16</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7/8</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>2 1/2</td>
<td>1 1/2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 1/2</td>
<td>3 1/2</td>
<td>1 1/2</td>
<td>1 1/16</td>
<td>11/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3 1/4</td>
<td>4 1/4</td>
<td>1 1/4</td>
<td>1 1/16</td>
<td>13/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3 1/2</td>
<td>4 1/2</td>
<td>2 1/10</td>
<td>2 1/16</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>5 (MIN)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2 (MIN)</td>
<td>3 3/8</td>
<td>1 1/2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TABLE 2: LAYING LENGTHS (IN.)

The information herein has been prepared solely from publicly available sources or from consensus positions adopted by manufacturers of these products or other interested parties in the industry. PPFA disclaims warranties, expressed or implied, as to the fitness for any particular purpose or suitability for any specific installation.