



MYTH vs FACT | CPVC Piping Systems

MYTH: CPVC breaks down over time.

FACT: CPVC is currently performing in installations nearly 60 years old

MYTH: Old CPVC can't be repaired without breaking.

FACT: CPVC plumbing systems can be added to or repaired using proper methods, techniques, and tools.

MYTH: CPVC is difficult to install.

FACT: CPVC is easy to install and no more difficult than any other non-metallic interior potable water system. It is often installed in DIY projects. No soldering or open flames are needed, as with copper.

MYTH: Solvent based cleaners must be used prior to solvent cementing.

FACT: If the piping is clean, a cleaner is not required.

MYTH: CPVC always requires the use of a primer.

FACT: One Step Cement, which does not require a primer, is permitted in most code jurisdictions.

MYTH: CPVC loses strength over time.

FACT: As CPVC ages, its ability to sustain pressure increases.

MYTH: CPVC has inferior heat performance vs. other pipe options.

FACT: CPVC has very low thermal conductivity and has excellent hot water delivery, reducing water heating costs as a result.

MYTH: CPVC pipe causes taste and odor problems in drinking water.

FACT: CPVC pipe does not create this issue. It provides potable drinking water. CPVC piping systems are tested and certified to NSF-14 and NSF-61.

MYTH: CPVC is less sustainable or less environmentally friendly than other options.

FACT: Compared with copper, CPVC generates half the greenhouse gases during manufacture, and more importantly, delivers hot water to fixtures about 25% more efficiently, which can reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with hot water use by 10 to 30 tons over the life of the building.

Source: Peer-Reviewed Life Cycle Inventory For The Production And Use Of Installed Residential Piping Systems For Three House Layouts Table ES-3. Summary Of LCI Results For HCWD Pipe Systems. https://www.ppfahome.org/pdf/Peer_Reviewed_Pipe_Use_Phase_Report_combined_Final.pdf

MYTH: Plastic piping systems are flammable.

FACT: CPVC is inherently flame resistant and will not sustain a flame. CPVC is even used in fire sprinkler systems.

MYTH: CPVC cannot be recycled.

FACT: Most CPVC piping is still in use; However, CPVC can be readily recycled into the vinyl stream.

MYTH: Selection of CPVC does not provide any credits under LEED, or other green building programs.

FACT: Selection of CPVC piping can assist in achieving green building credits.

MYTH: CPVC piping is a noisy product.

FACT: CPVC piping systems reduce surge pressures and limit water hammer noise.

MYTH: CPVC piping off-gasses plasticizers.

FACT: CPVC piping does not contain plasticizers.

MYTH: CPVC releases toxic smoke in fires.

FACT: CPVC piping does not produce increased hazards over other standard building products in a fire.