

STREAMING VIDEO TEXT

PEX Pipe - Compression Sleeve Fitting

The compression sleeve fitting is very fast. The first step to installing any PEX fitting is to have a clean square cut on the end of the pipe. Don't use a hack saw, don't use a pocket knife, use a proper plastic pipe cutter like what I have here. So take a piece of pipe and use this cutter and get a nice clean square cut on the end. This will ensure a good fitting. When doing the cold expansion fitting, the first step is to take the compression sleeve - there's a tapered end to this sleeve and a square end. The tapered end needs to be pointing toward the end of the pipe and will be pulled up and over the fitting. So we'll take it and slide it onto the pipe square end first with the tapered end pointed toward the end of the pipe, and then we'll use the hand tool to expand the pipe and make it larger. Using this hand tool, we put it inside the pipe and with a few pumps we expand it and make it bigger. Now if we hold it open for a few seconds, you'll see that because of these segments, the pipe is not perfectly round inside. This means that we're going to have to retract the tool and expand it a second time, which I'll demonstrate. Retract the tool and rotate just a few degrees to do the second expansion to make sure the pipe is round inside. Once a pipe is expanded, the fitting easily inserts into the pipe. The pipe will shrink back - it has memory - it wants to go back to its original dimension, which means that from the time you put the fitting inside, within a couple of seconds the pipe shrinks back over the fitting right away. Manually pull the sleeve up close to the fitting and use the same tool to hook in behind the collar of the fitting, and behind the back of the sleeve, and pull the sleeve up and over the pipe. You'll see as we do this that the pipe gets pulled up and over the very last barbed rib and makes a very tight connection. Just one action is all that's required to complete this fitting and as soon as it's done you can tell visually that the fitting is complete. No other testing or calibration is required. The first step will be a clean square cut, and then you take the compression sleeve and slide it over the end of the pipe with the beveled end, the tapered end toward the end of the pipe. Put the tool inside and apply a few pumps to expand the pipe; release the tool and rotate it just a few degrees with the second expansion to make it round inside and the fitting goes in. Use the same tool back in the fitting and pull it together. This process takes only a few seconds.