

Frequently asked questions about Alcolin PVC Weld

1. What is the difference between low and high-pressure PVC Weld adhesives?

Low pressure PVC Weld e.g. Alcolin PVC Weld is used for applications where the water is under no or low pressure e.g. bathrooms, toilets, kitchens, gutters, downpipes and other outlet PVC pipes.

High pressure PVC Weld e.g. Bostik PVC Weld is used for applications where PVC pipes where the water is under constant pressure e.g. irrigation, mains water inlets, swimming pool, refrigeration PVC pipes. Bostik PVC weld has been tested at a rating of 10 bars or 145psi.

2. Can Alcolin PVC Weld be used for gap filling between PVC pipes?

Alcolin PVC Weld has slight gap filling properties, so as long as the gaps are not too large, it should be fine. The solids content of Alcolin PVC Weld is 20%, so one can expect the wet film thickness to shrink in body by 80% as it dries. Bostik PVC Weld has a slightly higher solids content so it offers slightly better gap filling properties. For large gaps, and if the application is not high pressure e.g. outlet pipes, Alcolin Silicone or Alcolin Permomastik will be ideal.

3. Can I thin Bostik PVC Weld?

It is not recommended to thin Bostik PVC Weld for high pressure applications due to compromise in performance, however for low pressure applications such as outlet pipes in bathrooms, kitchens, gutters and downpipes, it should not be a problem. One can thin the PVC Weld with a suitable solvent such as Methyl Ethyl Ketone (MEK), or acetone.

4. What is the difference between PVC and CPVC?

CPVC, or Chlorinated Polyvinyl Chloride is a derivative of Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC). CPVC is made by a process that chlorinates the PVC. This produces a change in physical properties and alters the chemical resistance. As a result, the CPVC not only offers greater chemical resistance, but also greater thermal properties for a higher heat handling capacity. So generally, one would use CPVC for hot water applications and PVC for cold water applications.

5. How do I use PVC Weld?

The most important step is to ensure correct surface preparation :

The surface must be clean, dry, and free of loose materials, dust, dirt and any other contaminants. Joints must be close fitting. Both inner and outer pipe surfaces to be bonded must be deburred. For a superior bond, lightly sand the surfaces to be bonded and degrease with a suitable solvent i.e. acetone / thinners.

Apply adhesive to one surface and join the pipes immediately afterwards.

For low pressure applications, allow the adhesive to set for 8 hours, and for high pressure applications, allow the adhesive to set for 24 hours before turning on the pressure.

6. Can I thin Alcolin PVC Weld?

As Alcolin PVC Weld is for low pressure applications, it is not a problem to thin with a suitable solvent such as Methyl Ethyl Ketone (MEK).

7. Is PVC Weld suitable for bonding polyethylene and polypropylene?

No it is not suitable. It is only ideal for PVC, UPVC and CPVC.

