

JOINING PVC PIPE IN HOT WEATHER

There are many occasions when solvent cementing plastic pipe in 95° temperatures and over cannot be avoided. If special precautions are taken, problems can be avoided.

Weld-On solvent cements for plastic pipe contain high-strength solvents which evaporate faster at elevated temperatures. This is especially true when there is a hot wind blowing. If the pipe is stored in direct sunlight, surface temperatures may be 20° F to 30° F above air temperature. Solvents attack these hot surfaces faster and deeper, especially inside a joint. Thus it is very important to avoid puddling inside socket and to wipe off excess cement outside.

By following our standard instructions and using a little extra care, as outlined below, successful solvent cemented joints can be made in even the most extreme hot weather conditions.

TIPS TO FOLLOW WHEN SOLVENT CEMENTING IN HIGH TEMPERATURES

1. Store solvent cements and primers in a cool or shaded area prior to use.
2. If possible, store fitting and the pipe, or at least the ends to be solvent welded, in shady area before cementing.
3. Cool surfaces to be joined by wiping with a damp rag. Be sure that surface is dry prior to applying solvent cement.

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4. Try to do the solvent cementing in cooler morning hours.

5. Make sure that both surfaces to be joined are still wet with cement when putting them together. With large size pipe, more people on the crew may be necessary.

6. Use one of our heavier, high viscosity cements since they will provide a little more working time.

As you know, during hot weather there can be a greater expansion-contraction factor. We suggest you follow the advice of the pipe manufacturer regarding this condition. By using our high-quality Weld-On products as recommended and by following these hot weather tips, you can be assured of producing strong, leak-proof joints even during very hot weather conditions.

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