HOME
REPAIR
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for do-self repairs

PLASTIC DRAIN LINES

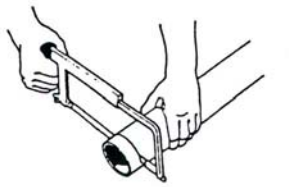
PVC (polyvinyl chloride) is almost always used for drain lines today. It is easy to work with, lightweight, and inexpensive, and comes in a variety of widths for fixture drains and sewer lines. Whether inside or out, drain lines need 1/4" of drop (downward slant) per foot to flow properly.

TO ASSEMBLE:

Tools: Tape measure, hacksaw, file, cleaner, and glue.

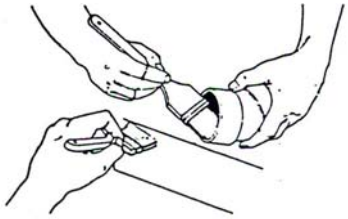
1. Measure the pipe and cut with a hacksaw.
2. Clean burrs off the cut ends with a file.
3. Coat both the outside of the pipe and the inside of the fitting with the cleaning solution.
4. Coat both the outside of the pipe and the inside of the fitting with glue; then, push together with a slight twisting motion.

Once assembled, the glue melts the two pieces together in about 30 seconds, so you have to be quick and assemble them right the first time. There is little or no time for adjustment. You can help assure accurate assembly by dry-fitting the pipes and fittings and marking where adjacent pieces should be lined up when gluing them together.



1. Cut the pipe squarely with a hacksaw, power miter saw, or PVC tubing cutter.

2. Remove burrs along the cut end – both inside and outside – with a utility knife or sandpaper.



3. Apply primer to the inside of the pipe and the outside of the fitting, and allow to dry for a few minute. Then, brush on the PVC cement.

4. Insert the pipe into the fitting as far as it will go, making sure the pieces are aligned properly, and hold for a few moments. The cement will dry quickly, so you will have little room for error.