



## Frequently Asked Questions

### Answers to Using TECTITE Fittings with Certain Chemicals and Applications:

- Yes: Hot Water (up to 180°F) at a maximum working pressure of 200 psi
- Yes: Chilled Water 0° to 180z°F at a maximum working pressure of 200 psi
- Yes: Vacuum
- Yes: Water Glycol Mixture (approved glycols: ethylene, propylene, butylene, glycol – up to 100% concentration)
- Yes: Air, Compressed (oil content less than .025 ppb)
- Yes: Window Washer Fluid
- Yes: Oxygen (note: Oxygen for medical gas application – NO)
- Yes: Nitrogen (maximum working pressure 140 psi)
- Yes: Argon (maximum working pressure 140 psi)
- No: Low Pressure Steam (maximum working pressure 15 psi)
- No : Chlorine
- No: Medical gas
- No: Solar (Contact EPC to review the application)
- No: All Petroleum Products (e.g., oil, grease, diesel fuel, gasoline)
- No: DWV Pipe (pipe wall too thin)
- No: Copper tube with wall thickness less than ASTM B88 Type M
- No: Natural Gas – Propane – Fuel Gases
- No: Refrigerants (Contact EPC to review the application)
- No: Fire Protection Systems
- No: Paint Lines like those found in car manufacturing plants (TECTITE fittings contain silicone lubricant)

**Q Is a TECTITE fitting removable?**

A Yes, with removal accomplished using a TECTITE removal tool available from EPC.

**Q Is a TECTITE fitting re-useable?**

A Yes, following new fitting installation procedures.

**Q Is there a limit on the number times a TECTITE fitting may be re-used?**

A Following new fitting installation procedures allows re-use numerous times.





**Q What is the procedure for soldering near a TECTITE connection?**

- A Stay at least 12 inches away from the Qtite connection. If 12 inches is not possible, installer should take proper precautions to keep the Qtite joint cool while soldering.
- Wrap the joint with a cold wet rag
  - Fabricate solder joint prior to installing the pressed fitting, making sure pipe is cooled before installing fitting.
  - Use "spray type" spot freezing product.

**Q As an inspector, how do I know if I am looking at a good joint?**

- A Check that the position of the depth insertion mark on the tube exterior surface is adjacent to the end of the TecTite fitting, then pressure test the joint in same manner as a solder joint.

**Q With what are the sealing elements in TECTITE fittings lubricated?**

- A The seals are lubricated with an ANSI/NSF 61 listed silicone grease. If it is necessary to lubricate the seals in the field, **use water only**. Do not use other lubricants. In particular, **do not** use any petroleum-based lubricants (petroleum and EPDM are incompatible).

**Q How long will the EPDM seal last?**

- A When properly installed the EPDM seal and connection will last as long as the copper pipe with which it is joined (50+ years).

**Q How was the life testing conducted for the seals and fittings?**

- A Life testing is performed per the requirements of ASSE 1061.

**Q How do I fabricate a system in tight places when using TECTITE?**

- A If necessary, pre-fabricate connections that are in tight places and then install.

**Q Does the TECTITE system require the use of special valves?**

- A No. Users can continue with their favorite valve line by using the threaded adapters or by stubbing-out the valves. EPC also offers a line of valves that has TECTITE adapters already assembled and thread-locked to the valve body to simplify installation.

**Q What is the warranty for TECTITE?**

TECTITE fittings carry a 50-year warranty against defects in material and workmanship from the manufacturer, EPC.





**Q Can you turn a TECTITE fitting on the tube without damaging the integrity of the joint?**

A Yes. The fitting can be turned (rotated) after assembly and will not affect the integrity of the joint. Installers should take this product feature into consideration and support tube assemblies during installation and in the final installation.

**Q Is TECTITE approved for underground use?**

A Tectite fittings are approved for underground installation, which should be done in accordance with local plumbing and mechanical codes, and practices.

**Q To what degree does the temperature rating go up or down as pressure in a TECTITE system changes?**

A The TECTITE pressure rating is 200 psi working pressure and 600 psi test pressure at all temperatures between 0°F and 250°F. These values are well above the working temperatures of 180°F for PEX and CPVC, and well within the working pressures of 100 psi for PEX, and 200 psi for CPVC.

**Q How do TECTITE joints hold up to freezing temperatures?**

A Water systems should not be allowed to freeze. When water freezes, it expands and creates pressures that exceed plumbing system pressure capabilities – i.e. tubes and fittings may burst!

**Q What should a user do if a TECTITE system leaks?**

A In general, TECTITE fittings only leak due to one of three reasons:

- 1) The water pipe was not properly chamfered prior to installation
- 2) The tubing was not properly inserted
- 3) The O-Ring was damaged at insertion

A leaking TECTITE fitting cannot be repaired. The fitting must be replaced.

**Q Is TECTITE compatible with the cleaning agents used to disinfect a new plumbing system?**

A Yes.

**Q Is a TECTITE fitting compatible with existing Polybutylene pipe (PB) installations?**

A No. The age of existing PB installations typically cause the pipe to become brittle. This combined with notch sensitivity typical of PB doesn't work well with the technology used in TECTITE fittings. Tube liners are not available for use with PB pipe.



**Q What should be done if a user accidentally cuts the seal with the copper tubing?**

- A If the seal is damaged by inserting the copper pipe, the fitting must be replaced. Please note the following:
- 1) The tube must be chamfered as detailed in the instruction manual before installation. This will prevent damage to the seal.
  - 2) The tube should not be inserted into the fitting at an angle.
  - 3) Rotate the tube as it is inserted into the TECTITE fitting. This aligns the tube and fitting during installation.
  - 4) The tube must be inserted until the depth mark on the tube OD is aligned with the end of the fitting.

**Q Is an OD chamfer required if I use a replacement-type cutter wheel?**

A Yes. Failure to chamfer the tube OD will result in a damaged o-ring and a leak. Failure to chamfer the tube voids the fitting warranty.

**Q Can TECTITE repair couplings be used with all tube material types?**

A No. TECTITE repair couplings can only be used with copper tube. Using a repair coupling with CPVC or PEX tube can result in OD scoring of the tube which can cause leakage past the o-ring seal.

**Q Can TECTITE stainless steel braided hose products be used with pressurized air or enclosed behind a wall?**

A No. TECTITE hose products are designed specifically for use with water and should only be installed in locations that are accessible by access panels or fully exposed.

**Q Is a TECTITE push-connect fitting joint electrically conductive?**

A Yes. The copper tube and the fitting body are in intimate contact once the tube is fully inserted.