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SharkBite U860R500

SharkBite PEX-B Pipe (Model U860R500) Installation and Usage Manual

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The SharkBite 1/2 Inch x 500 Feet Red PEX-B Pipe (Model U860R500) is a flexible cross-linked polyethylene (PEX-B) tubing designed for hot and cold potable water systems. Its inherent flexibility allows for longer runs and fewer fittings, which can reduce installation time, cost, and potential leak points. This PEX-B pipe is freeze-tolerant, meaning it expands slightly when water freezes and contracts upon thawing, minimizing damage.



Image 1: A coil of SharkBite 1/2 Inch Red PEX-B Pipe, ready for plumbing installations.

Key Features:

- **Flexible PEX-B Tubing:** Designed for hot and cold potable water systems, supporting longer runs and fewer fittings.
- **Easy Installation:** Bends around corners without requiring elbows; freeze-tolerant.
- **Broad Compatibility:** Works with PEX expansion (F1960), push-to-connect (ASSE 1061), plastic barb (ASTM

F2159), and brass barb (ASTM F1807) fittings.

- **Durable & UV-Tolerant:** Cross-linked polyethylene construction resists kinks and is rated for six-month UV exposure.
- **Rated Performance:** Minimum temperature: 33°F at 160 PSI; maximum: 200°F at 80 PSI; max pressure: 160 PSI at 33°F–70°F. Compliant with ASTM F2023 for oxidative tolerance. Manufactured in the USA.

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Video 1: This video from SharkBite (Reliance Worldwide Corp) compares the properties and uses of PEX-A, PEX-B, and PEX-C pipes, providing context for the U860R500 PEX-B pipe.

2. INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

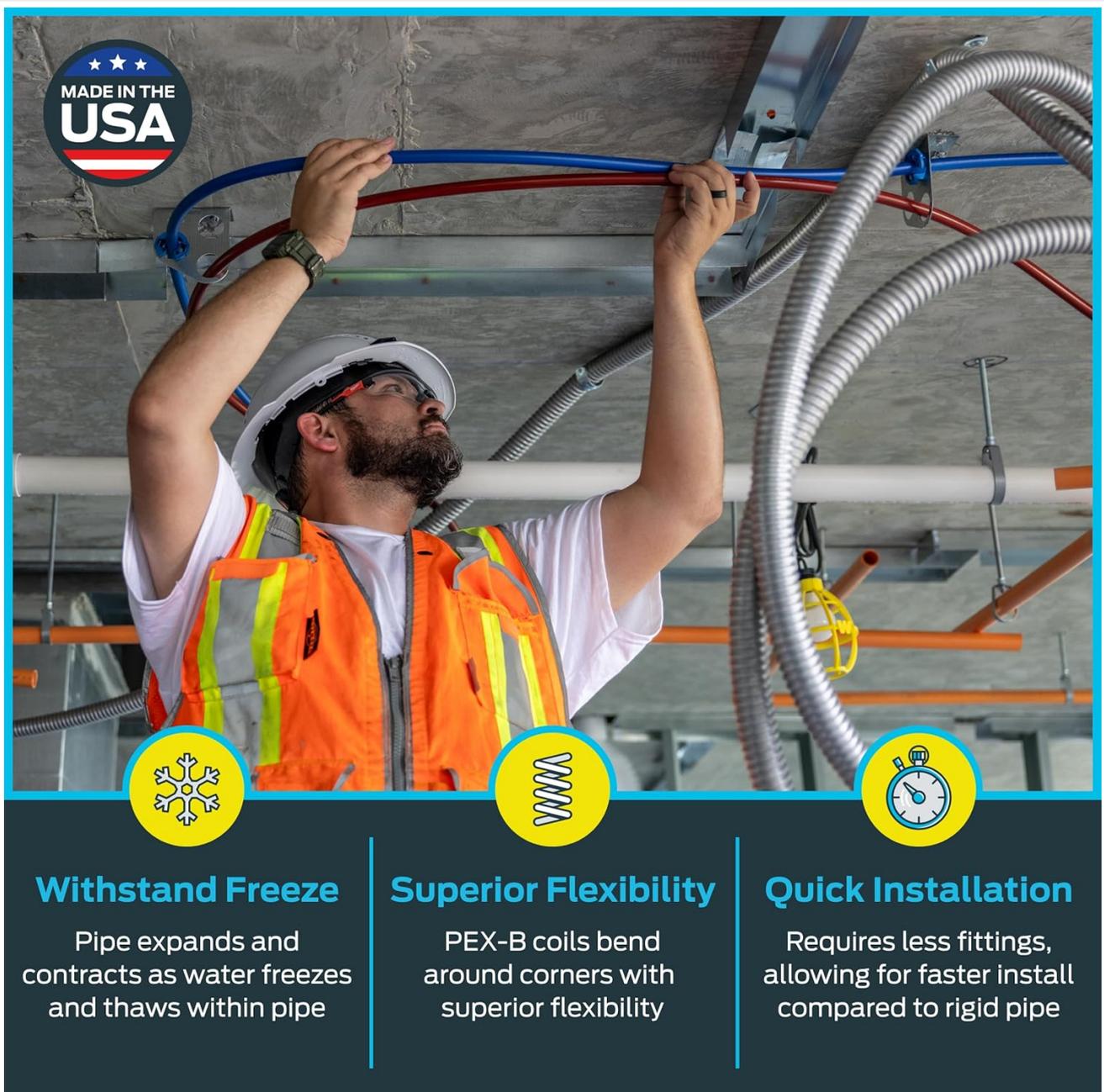
Proper installation is crucial for the longevity and performance of your SharkBite PEX-B pipe system. This pipe is designed for flexibility and ease of use, reducing the need for numerous fittings.

2.1. Preparation

- Ensure all necessary tools are available, including a PEX cutter, appropriate PEX fittings (expansion, push-to-connect, plastic barb, or brass barb), and crimping/clamping tools if required.
- Plan your pipe runs to minimize connections and take advantage of the pipe's flexibility to bend around corners.
- Inspect the PEX-B pipe for any damage before installation.

2.2. Cutting and Connecting

1. Cut the PEX-B pipe squarely using a PEX cutter to ensure a clean edge for proper fitting connection.
2. For push-to-connect fittings, simply push the pipe firmly into the fitting until it seats.
3. For barb fittings (plastic or brass), slide a crimp ring or clamp over the pipe, insert the barb fitting, and then secure the ring/clamp using the appropriate tool.
4. For PEX expansion (F1960) fittings, use an expansion tool to expand the pipe end, insert the fitting, and allow the pipe to contract around the fitting for a secure connection.



Withstand Freeze

Pipe expands and contracts as water freezes and thaws within pipe

Superior Flexibility

PEX-B coils bend around corners with superior flexibility

Quick Installation

Requires less fittings, allowing for faster install compared to rigid pipe

Image 2: An installer demonstrating the flexibility and ease of routing PEX pipe through wall studs during a plumbing project.

2.3. Routing and Securing

- Route the PEX-B pipe through studs and joists, taking advantage of its flexibility to avoid unnecessary fittings.
- Secure the pipe using appropriate hangers or clips at recommended intervals to prevent sagging and ensure proper drainage.
- The pipe is suitable for direct burial, including under concrete, due to its durable construction.

3. OPERATING CONDITIONS

The SharkBite PEX-B pipe is designed to perform reliably within specified temperature and pressure ranges for potable water applications.

- **Minimum Temperature:** 33°F (0.5°C) at 160 PSI
- **Maximum Temperature:** 200°F (93°C) at 80 PSI
- **Maximum Pressure:** 160 PSI at 33°F–70°F (0.5°C–21°C)

Ensure your system's operating conditions remain within these limits to maintain the pipe's integrity and warranty.

4. MAINTENANCE AND CARE

SharkBite PEX-B pipe requires minimal maintenance due to its durable and corrosion-resistant properties. However, adhering to these guidelines will ensure optimal performance and longevity:

- **Freeze Tolerance:** While freeze-tolerant, prolonged exposure to freezing temperatures without water flow can still cause issues. If a system is to be shut down in freezing conditions, it is recommended to drain the lines.
- **UV Exposure:** The pipe is rated for six months of UV exposure. For installations where the pipe will be exposed to sunlight for longer periods, it must be protected or covered to prevent degradation.
- **Inspection:** Periodically inspect exposed sections of the pipe for any signs of physical damage, kinks, or leaks. Address any issues promptly.
- **Chemical Exposure:** Avoid exposing the pipe to harsh chemicals or solvents that are not compatible with PEX materials.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues that may arise with PEX-B pipe installations.

5.1. Leaks at Fittings

- **Cause:** Improperly cut pipe, incorrect fitting installation, or damaged fitting/pipe.
- **Solution:**
 - a. Ensure pipe ends are cut squarely and free of burrs.
 - b. Verify that the fitting is fully seated and secured according to the manufacturer's instructions for the specific fitting type (push-to-connect, barb, expansion).
 - c. Inspect the pipe and fitting for any visible damage. Replace if necessary.

5.2. Kinks in Pipe

- **Cause:** Bending the pipe beyond its minimum bend radius or excessive force during installation.
- **Solution:**
 - a. PEX-B pipe is less prone to kinking than some other PEX types, but kinks can still occur.
 - b. For minor kinks, the pipe may recover some of its shape. However, a severely kinked section should be cut out and replaced with a new section of pipe and appropriate fittings to ensure unrestricted flow and system integrity.
 - c. Avoid using heat guns on PEX-B to repair kinks, as this can damage the pipe material.

5.3. Reduced Water Flow

- **Cause:** Kinked pipe, debris in the line, or improperly installed fittings restricting flow.
- **Solution:**
 - a. Check for any visible kinks in the pipe run and address as described above.
 - b. If debris is suspected, flush the system.
 - c. Verify that all fittings are installed correctly and not obstructing the flow path.

6. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Attribute	Value
Brand	SharkBite
Model Number	U860R500
Material	PEX (Cross-linked Polyethylene)
Color	Red
Size	1/2 Inch
Item Length	500 Feet
Product Dimensions	8.5"L x 26.5"W (Coil dimensions)
Item Weight	26.5 Pounds
Outside Diameter	0.5 Inches
Nominal Wall Thickness	0.08 inches
Maximum Pressure	160 PSI
Temperature Rating	33°F to 200°F
UV Resistance	Rated for six-month UV exposure
UPC	697285255005
Manufacturer	Cash Acme
Country of Origin	USA

6 Month UV Rating & Highest Chlorine Resistance

PEX-B Pipe

MADE IN THE USA

FLEXIBILITY
Good, Bend Radius of 8x tubing O.D.

APPLICATIONS
For hot or cold plumbing applications
Residential and commercial use

MAX WORKING PRESSURE (PSI) 33°F | 160 PSI | **MAX WORKING TEMPERATURE 200°F | 80 PSI**

Image 3: Detailed features of SharkBite PEX-B Pipe, highlighting its flexibility, applications for hot and cold plumbing, and maximum working pressure and temperature.

7. WARRANTY INFORMATION

The SharkBite PEX-B Pipe (Model U860R500) comes with a **Limited 25 Year Warranty**. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use and service conditions. For full details regarding terms,

conditions, and claim procedures, please refer to the official SharkBite warranty documentation available on their website or contact customer support.



PROUDLY MADE IN THE USA
BACKED FOR 25 YEARS

Image 4: A graphic emphasizing that SharkBite PEX pipes are made in the USA and backed by a 25-year warranty.

8. CUSTOMER SUPPORT

For further assistance, technical questions, or warranty claims, please contact SharkBite customer support:

- **Website:** Visit the official [SharkBite Store on Amazon](#) or the main SharkBite website for product information, FAQs, and additional resources.
- **Contact Information:** Refer to the SharkBite website for the most current contact details, including phone numbers and email support.

