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› Riobel R23-SPEX 2-Way Thermostatic/Pressure Balance Coaxial Valve Rough PEX Instruction Manual

Riobel R23-SPEX

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INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the installation, operation, and maintenance of the Riobel R23-SPEX 2-Way Type T/P (Thermostatic/Pressure Balance) coaxial valve rough PEX. This product is designed to provide precise temperature and pressure control for your shower or bath system. Please read these instructions thoroughly before beginning installation or use to ensure proper function and safety.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW



An image showing the Riobel R23-SPEX coaxial valve rough-in, featuring its brass body, PEX connections, and red protective casing. This component is designed for concealed installation within a wall.

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Installation of the Riobel R23-SPEX valve should be performed by a qualified plumber in accordance with local plumbing codes. This valve is a rough-in component, meaning it is installed within the wall before the final trim kit is applied.

Key Installation Steps:

1. **Preparation:** Ensure the main water supply to the installation area is turned off. Clear the work area and gather all necessary tools and materials.
2. **Mounting:** Securely mount the valve rough-in to the framing within the wall, ensuring it is plumb and at the correct depth relative to the finished wall surface. The red protective casing helps maintain the correct depth during wall finishing.
3. **PEX Connections:** Connect the 1/2" PEX inlet and two 1/2" PEX outlets according to your plumbing system design. Ensure all connections are watertight and secure. The valve features two outlets for diverting water to different fixtures (e.g., showerhead and hand shower).
4. **Testing:** Before closing the wall, install the test cap and turn on the water supply to check for any leaks. Verify proper water flow and pressure.
5. **Finishing:** Once the wall is finished, remove the test cap and install the compatible Riobel trim kit (sold separately) according to its specific instructions.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The Riobel R23-SPEX is a thermostatic/pressure balance coaxial valve rough-in. Its operation is controlled by the specific trim kit installed over it. The trim kit typically includes a handle for temperature adjustment and a diverter for selecting between the two outlets.

- **Temperature Control:** The thermostatic element within the valve maintains a consistent water temperature, preventing sudden changes due to fluctuations in hot or cold water supply pressure. Adjust the temperature using the handle on your trim kit.
- **Pressure Balance:** The pressure balance feature automatically adjusts the hot and cold water mix to compensate for pressure changes in either line, ensuring a stable water flow and temperature.
- **Diverter Function:** The 2-way design allows water to be directed to one of two connected fixtures. Use the diverter on your trim kit to switch between these outputs.

MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance helps ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Riobel R23-SPEX valve. As this is a concealed component, most maintenance will involve the visible trim kit.

- **Cleaning:** Clean the visible trim kit regularly with a soft cloth and mild soap. Avoid abrasive cleaners, harsh chemicals, or scouring pads, as these can damage the finish.
- **Leak Checks:** Periodically check for any signs of leaks around the trim kit or behind the wall if accessible. Address any leaks promptly to prevent water damage.
- **Service Valves:** The valve includes service valves, which allow for the water supply to be shut off to the valve itself for maintenance or repair without affecting the entire household water supply. Consult a professional for servicing.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Riobel R23-SPEX valve, consider the following common problems and solutions. For complex issues, professional assistance is recommended.

- **Inconsistent Water Temperature:**
 - Ensure both hot and cold water supplies are fully open to the valve.
 - Check for blockages in the water lines leading to the valve.
 - The thermostatic cartridge may need calibration or replacement. Consult a plumber.
- **Low Water Flow:**
 - Verify that the main water supply and any service valves are fully open.
 - Check for debris or sediment in the valve or PEX lines.
 - Ensure the showerhead or other fixtures are not clogged.
- **Water Not Diverting Correctly:**

- Ensure the diverter on the trim kit is fully engaged in the desired position.
- The diverter cartridge within the valve may be faulty or obstructed.
- **Leaks:**
 - Inspect all PEX connections for proper sealing.
 - The valve cartridge may be worn and require replacement.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	R23-SPEX
Type	2-Way Thermostatic/Pressure Balance Coaxial Valve Rough
Inlet Connection Type	1/2" PEX (Cross Linked Polyethylene)
Outlet Connection Type	1/2" PEX (Two Outlets)
Number of Ports	3
Material	Metal, Plastic
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	5.74 x 4.72 x 4.17 inches
Item Weight	2 pounds
Included Components	2-way Type T/P (thermostatic/pressure balance) coaxial valve rough PEX, Test cap
UPC	883186076942
Specification Met	Prop 65

IMPORTANT NOTES

- Always turn off the main water supply before performing any installation or maintenance.
- It is highly recommended that installation be performed by a certified plumbing professional.
- Ensure all connections are properly sealed to prevent leaks.
- This rough-in valve requires a compatible Riobel trim kit for complete functionality and aesthetic finish.