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› [SharkBite Max 1/2 Inch x 3/4 Inch FIP x 18 Inch Stainless Steel Braided Flexible Water Heater Connector Instruction Manual](#)

SharkBite UR3068FX18

SharkBite Max 1/2 Inch x 3/4 Inch FIP x 18 Inch Stainless Steel Braided Flexible Water Heater Connector Instruction Manual

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The SharkBite Max 1/2 Inch x 3/4 Inch FIP x 18 Inch Stainless Steel Braided Flexible Water Heater Connector is designed to simplify plumbing and home improvement projects. Constructed from lead-free DZR brass with a reinforced stainless-steel collar, this braided connector facilitates easy installation and connection of a water heater to existing PEX, copper, CPVC, PE-RT, and SDR-9 HDPE pipes in various combinations. SharkBite Max quick connector fittings require less insertion force for a stronger connection, eliminating the need for additional tools, glue, or soldering. These connectors can be installed in wet lines and are approved for underground and behind-the-wall applications (wrapping required when burying underground). This fitting adapter also allows for seamless joining of different pipe types, making repairs and upgrades faster and more reliable. It is rated for temperatures up to 200 degrees F and pressures up to 250 PSI.

KEY FEATURES

- **Fast and Easy Installation:** Push-to-connect design allows for quick connections between a water heater and PEX, copper, CPVC, PE-RT, and SDR-9 HDPE pipes without soldering, glue, or special tools. Can be installed in wet lines.
- **No PEX Tube Liner Required:** Eliminates flow restriction when used with Copper/CPVC pipes.
- **Strong and Durable:** Features a reinforced stainless steel collar that locks the cartridge, providing additional strength and a 50 percent reduction in insertion force.
- **Lead-Free Construction:** Made from high-quality forged DZR brass with reinforced stainless steel, ensuring it is lead-free and meets commercial and residential plumbing standards.
- **Certified Performance:** Rated for temperatures up to 200 degrees F and pressures up to 250 PSI, with a 2K maximum burst rating.

SAFETY INFORMATION

Always turn off the main water supply before beginning any plumbing work. Ensure all connections are secure and check for leaks before fully restoring water pressure. Wear appropriate personal protective

equipment (PPE) such as safety glasses and gloves during installation. If you are unsure about any step, consult a qualified plumber.

COMPONENTS

Each package contains one (1) SharkBite Max 1/2 Inch x 3/4 Inch FIP x 18 Inch Stainless Steel Braided Flexible Water Heater Connector.



A close-up view of the SharkBite Max braided flexible water heater connector, showing its 18-inch length, 1/2 inch Push-to-Connect (PTC) end, and 3/4 inch Female Iron Pipe (FIP) end. The connector features a stainless steel braided exterior for durability.

INSTALLATION GUIDE

Follow these steps for proper installation of your SharkBite Max Water Heater Connector:

**CUT.
PUSH.
DONE.**



This image illustrates the six key steps for installing SharkBite Max water heater connectors.

1. **Step 1: Measure Distance**

Measure the distance from the hot and cold supply lines to determine the required connector length.

2. **Step 2: Cut Pipe**

Cut the existing pipe as cleanly and squarely as possible. Ensure there are no burrs or rough edges.

3. **Step 3: Mark Insertion Depth**

Use a SharkBite deburring and depth gauge tool (sold separately) to mark the correct insertion depth on the pipe. This ensures the fitting is fully engaged.

4. **Step 4: Hand-Tighten Female Connector**

Hand-tighten the female threaded end of the connector onto the water heater's pipe nipple. Do not overtighten.

5. **Step 5: Push Fitting to Mark**

Push the Push-to-Connect (PTC) end of the connector firmly onto the prepared pipe until it reaches the marked insertion depth. You should feel a positive 'click' or resistance indicating a secure connection.

6. **Step 6: Turn On Water and Check**

Slowly turn on the water supply and carefully check all connections for any leaks.



Easy Installation

No special tools
required

TEMPERATURE RATED

140° F

MAXIMUM PRESSURE

200 psi



An installed SharkBite Max water heater connector connecting a water heater to a PEX pipe system. The image emphasizes the ease of installation with no special tools required, and highlights the temperature rating of 140°F and maximum pressure of 200 psi.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once properly installed, the SharkBite Max Water Heater Connector functions as a permanent, leak-free connection for your water heater. No specific operational steps are required beyond ensuring the water supply is turned on and the system is free of leaks. The connector is designed for continuous use within its specified temperature and pressure ratings.

MAINTENANCE

The SharkBite Max connector is designed for maintenance-free operation. However, periodic visual inspections are recommended:

- **Regular Checks:** Periodically inspect the connections for any signs of leaks, corrosion, or damage.
- **Cleaning:** If necessary, gently wipe the exterior of the connector with a soft, damp cloth. Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners.

- **Environmental Conditions:** Ensure the connector is not exposed to conditions outside its rated temperature and pressure limits. If installed underground, ensure proper wrapping as specified during installation.



Durable

- ✓ Made of stainless steel and DZR brass
- ✓ Flexible and kink resistant



A close-up of the SharkBite Max connector in an installed plumbing system, illustrating its durable construction from stainless steel and DZR brass, and its flexible, kink-resistant design.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your SharkBite Max connector, consider the following:

- **Leaks at Connection:**
 - Ensure the pipe was cut squarely and is free of burrs.
 - Verify the pipe was inserted to the correct depth mark.
 - Confirm the pipe material is compatible with SharkBite fittings (PEX, copper, CPVC, PE-RT, SDR-9 HDPE).
 - Check if the female threaded end is properly hand-tightened to the pipe nipple.
- **Difficulty Inserting Pipe:**

- Ensure the pipe end is deburred and clean.
- Apply slight rotational force while pushing the pipe into the fitting.

- **Water Flow Issues:**

- Verify that all shut-off valves in the system are fully open.
- Check for any blockages in the pipe system unrelated to the connector.

For persistent issues, it is recommended to contact a professional plumber or SharkBite customer support.

SPECIFICATIONS

Brand	SharkBite
Model Number	UR3068FX18
Size	1/2 in. x 3/4 in. FIP x 18 in.
Material	Brass, Chlorinated Polyvinyl Chloride (CPVC), Copper, Cross-Linked Polyethylene (PEX), Stainless Steel
Color	Brass
Maximum Pressure	250 PSI (2000 PSI burst rating)
Maximum Temperature	200°F
Product Dimensions	45.27 x 3.17 x 2.87 cm; 253.47 g
Item Weight	253 g
UPC	697285082229

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For specific warranty information and customer support, please refer to the official SharkBite website or contact their customer service department directly. Keep your purchase receipt for warranty claims. SharkBite products are designed for reliability and are backed by their commitment to quality.