

Task Title: Understanding Household Plumbing Pipes

# OALCF Cover Sheet – Practitioner Copy

**Learner Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date Started: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Goal Path:** | Employment | Apprenticeship |
| Secondary School | Post Secondary | Independence |

**Successful Completion:**  Yes No

**Task Description:** The learner will read about pipes used in household plumbing and conduct internet searches to learn more.

**Main Competency/Task Group/Level Indicator:**

* Find and Use Information/Read continuous text/A1.2
* Use Digital Technology/D.2

**Materials Required:**

* Pen/pencil and paper
* Computer or digital device

# Learner Information

Plumbers need to understand the uses of various pipes when building or replacing existing plumbing fixtures. Read “Types of Household Plumbing Pipes”.

**Types of Household Plumbing Pipes**

Pipes are typically used either for drainage or for water supply.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Water Supply** | **Drainage** |
| * Copper pipe * PVC * CPVC * PEX * Galvanized Pipe | * ABS * PVC * Cast Iron * Galvanized Pipe * Copper Pipe DWV |

**ABS** - A hard walled black plastic drain pipe used extensively in North America.

**Cast Iron** - A very common drain pipe in older homes but it is no longer used in residential plumbing.

**Copper pipe** - Used for decades as the most common water supply pipe. Copper pipe and tubing comes in a variety of sizes and types.

**Copper Pipe DWV** - A hard walled copper drain, waste and vent pipe (DWV) that was commonly used in older homes. It is still commonly used in commercial and industrial construction but is too pricey for residential.

**CPVC** - Used as a hot/cold water supply pipe in many countries around the world because of the price but it lacks long term durability.

**Galvanized pipe (Drainage)** - Common in many older homes and prone to maintenance. Easily discernible by the silver to whitish color and threaded fittings.

**Galvanized pipe (Water Supply)** - May still be found in many homes but is seldom used anymore because of water discoloration, cost and difficult repairs.

**PEX** - Cross-linked polyethylene tubing. This has become the standard in new home construction. PEX comes in a variety of colors and is used for plumbing and heating purposes.

**PVC (Drainage**) - A hard walled white plastic drain pipe used throughout the world.

**PVC (Water Supply**) - Used as a cold-water supply pipe in many countries around the world because of the price; lacks long term durability.

Work Sheet

**Task 1: List two types of pipes that are used for both water supply and drainage.**

Answer:

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Task 2: Which type of pipe is not used in residential because of the cost?**

Answer:

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Task 3: The following pipes are commonly referred to using their acronyms. Conduct internet searches to find the complete name of each pipe and write them below.**

Answer:

**ABS**

**PVC**

**CPVC   
  
  
PEX   
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Task 4: Conduct an internet search to find the purpose of DWV (drain, waste and vent) in plumbing. List two reasons DWV is used.**

Answer:

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Task 5: Conduct an internet search to learn more about the durability of PVC. List two reasons it is considered durable.**

Answer:

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# Answers

**Task 1: List two types of pipes that are used for both water supply and drainage.**

Answer: PVC and Galvanized Pipe

**Task 2: Which type of pipe is not used in residential because of the cost?**

Answer: Copper Pipe DWV

**Task 3: The following pipes are commonly referred to using their acronyms. Conduct internet searches to find the complete name of each pipe and write them below.**

Answer:

**ABS** - Acrylonitrile butadiene styrene

**PVC** - Polyvinyl chloride

**CPVC** - Chlorinated polyvinyl chloride

**PEX** - Cross-linked polyethylene

**Task 4: Conduct an internet search to find the purpose of DWV (drain, waste and vent) in plumbing. List two reasons DWV is used.**

Answers will vary but may include:

* DWV removes sewage and greywater from a building
* Designed to carry waste by gravity, preventing issues like slow drainage and the buildup of gases
* It regulates air pressure in waste system pipes
* It ensures proper flow occurs

**Task 5: Conduct an internet search to learn more about the durability of PVC. List two reasons it is considered durable.**

**Answers will vary but may include:**

* It is easy to work with
* It can be installed quickly
* It does not conduct electricity
* It doesn’t lose hot water heat as easily as coper
* It does not corrode when exposed to aggressive water
* It is resistant to damage from weather
* It is more fire resistant due to a high chlorine content
* It is highly resistant to many chemicals

# Performance Descriptors

| Levels | Performance Descriptors | Needs Work | Completes task with support from practitioner | Completes task independently |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A1.2 | scans text to locate information |  |  |  |
|  | locates multiple pieces of information in simple texts |  |  |  |
|  | makes low-level inferences |  |  |  |
|  | makes connections between sentences and between paragraphs in a single text |  |  |  |
|  | reads more complex texts to locate a single piece of information |  |  |  |
|  | follows the main events of descriptive, narrative and informational texts |  |  |  |
|  | obtains information from detailed reading |  |  |  |
|  | begins to identify source and evaluate information |  |  |  |
| D.2 | selects and follows appropriate steps to complete tasks |  |  |  |
|  | locates and recognizes functions and commands |  |  |  |
|  | makes low-level inferences to interpret icons and text |  |  |  |
|  | begins to identify sources and evaluate information |  |  |  |
|  | performs simple searches using keywords (e.g. internet, software help menu) |  |  |  |

This task: Was successfully completed Needs to be tried again

Learner Comments:

Instructor (print): Learner (print):

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