

K-Flex Pipe Covering I.D.'s and Actual Pipe O.D.'s for Various Materials

Nominal pipe size can be a misleading term since pipes/tubing of the same “nominal” pipe size, but manufactured from different materials can have significantly different outside diameters. The chart below provides actual O.D.'s for pipe fabricated from copper (rigid pipe and soft tubing), iron pipe (black iron, typically referred to as IPS), stainless steel, wrought iron, ductile iron, PVC, CPVC, PEX and glass (fiberglass). As can be seen from the chart, not all materials are available in all sizes.

In general, black iron (IPS), stainless steel (SS), PVC, CPVC, PVDF, galvanized and wrought iron share the same O.D.'s. Copper (plumbing) pipe and PEX tubing also have the same O.D.'s. For soft copper tubing, the O.D. is actually the nominal tube size. Ductile iron and C900 / 905 have similar O.D.'s. Glass pipe is unique. Correct insulation sizes are listed on the price lists for copper pipe, copper tube and IPS for the applicable insulation product. Pipe Covering I.D.'s are also on our website under Literature – Specifications – Rubber Tube or <http://www.kflexusa.com/downloads/Product%20Specifications/Rubber%20Tube.pdf>

Nominal Pipe Size (in.)	ACTUAL O.D., in.						
	Soft Copper Tubing	Copper Pipe (Types K, L)	PEX Tubing	IPS, SS, PVC, PVDF, CPVC	Wrought Iron**	Ductile Iron	Glass Pipe
1/8	.125			.405			
3/16	.188						
1/4	.250	.375	.375	.540	.540		
5/16	.313						
3/8	.375	.500	.500	.675	.675		
1/2	.500	.625	.625	.840	.840		
5/8	.625	.750	.750				
3/4	.750	.875	.875	1.050	1.050		
7/8	.875						
1		1.125	1.125	1.315	1.315		1.31
1-1/8	1.125						
1-1/4		1.375	1.375	1.660	1.660		
1-3/8	1.375						
1-1/2		1.625	1.625	1.900 *	1.900		1.84
1-5/8	1.625						
2		2.125	2.125	2.375	2.375		2.34
2-1/2		2.625		2.875	2.875		
3		3.125		3.500		3.96	3.41
3-1/2		3.625		4.000			
4		4.125		4.500		4.80	4.53
5		5.125		5.563			
6		6.125		6.625		6.90	6.66
8		8.125		8.625		9.05	

*PVDF O.D. is 1.9063” **May be black or galvanized
For pipe sizes over 8.625” O.D., use sheet insulation.

