



CITY OF PALM DESERT
Building & Safety
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Open Flame Heating and Bending Rigid PVC



The California Plumbing Code, 2007 Edition, does not recognize heating and bending rigid PVC as a viable alternative to the use of listed approved fittings. Additionally there is no installation standard that gives specific guidelines for this type of procedure. The Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa and Hot Tub Code also prohibits the use of heat when field bending PVC pipe as stated in section 310.3

The Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa & Hot Tub Code, 2006 Edition, Section 310.3 Plastic piping, up to a maximum of two (2) inch (51 mm), may be cold bent in the field to a minimum radius of five (5) feet (1524 mm) without the application of heat. Bends of small radii and larger than two (2) inch (51 mm) shall be manufactured with the use of thermostatically controlled equipment and shall be listed.

The use of OPEN FLAME method to field bend PVC is strictly prohibited in the City of Palm Desert.

Should the Building Inspector observe the use of open-flame during the installation or, it's determined during an inspection that the PVC pipe is scorched or discolored the PVC piping in question shall be removed and replaced.