



Frequently Asked Questions

From the point of view of the Plumbing Contractor

Test Dome™ Coupling (TDC)

What is the difference between the spigot-hub (i.e.: product codes 83470-83473) and the spigot-spigot (i.e.: product codes 83474-83475) SKUs with the Test Dome Coupling? ASTM D2661-21 ASTM D2665-2

The Test Dome Coupling (TDC) is available in two types of configurations for the 4-inch size: A Spigot-to-hub, which has a male and female side of the coupling. And spigot-to-spigot, which has male connection at both ends of the coupling.

Why is the Test Dome Coupling (TDC) have grease around the dome or cap?

This was added during production of the TDC to ensure that the cap does not cease to the coupling when the solvent cement is applied to the coupling to weld to the sewer line. During the field product testing phase, plumbing contractors preferred a “greased” coupling as it saves them a step in the installation applying pipe dope or Vaseline to the cap.

Does the TDC require any special tools for installation?

No. However, the coupling does have to be solvent welded to the sewer line. Our recommendation would be our Weld-On product line of primers and solvent cements.

What are the basic installation steps that should be followed with the TDC?

Before testing the DWV system, a cleanout or other fitting should be solvent cemented to the DWV pipe leading away from the building. A “spigot-to-hub” Test Dome Coupling is used for testing. The spigot, or male side of the coupling, is solvent cemented inside the fitting with the dome facing the building and the hub facing the sewer line. The coupling becomes a permanent part of the DWV system once the cap is removed after testing. In applications where you are joining two fittings before connecting to the sewer line, a “spigot-to-spigot” configuration can be used. The coupling itself can mate the two fixtures.

Is the TDC certified to UPC (Uniform Plumbers Code)?

Yes. The certification was issued by IAPMO in 2024. It is also certified to IPC (International Plumbing Code) issued by ICC (International Code Council)

Can the TDC be used in vertical installations?

No. It is designed for horizontal installations and is rated for up to 20 PSI head pressure.

What does the TDC rating of 20 PSI head pressure convert to in terms of water head (feet)?

20 PSI of head pressure is approximately 50 feet of head or a 5-story building. Here is a conversion table that can be used for this calculation.

PSI	Story	Feet
4.33	1 story	10 ft
8.66	2 story	20 ft
12.99	3 story	30 ft
17.32	4 story	40 ft
21.65	5 story	50 ft

Is it important to ensure the nylon cords metal clamp gets locked into the plastic channel on the dome /lid?

Yes, during installation this is important. As this will prevent the nylon cord from getting solvent welded to the pipe.

How do you ensure that the dome/cap is in the proper position during installation?

There are a few ways to confirm the proper alignment and positioning of the dome/cap. First make sure you align the “TOP” text on the base of the coupling with the dome/cap positioning. There is a key on the cap and a keyway on the body that needs to be aligned. This prevents rotation and ensures the dome/cap are properly positioned.

Does the dome/cap lock into place when properly aligned?

Yes. There is an audible “snap” that is heard when proper pressure is applied to the cap to secure it to the dome/cap. Always ensure the cap/dome is fully seated into the body/coupling.

Is the TDC safe to use or does it have “danger zones” when installing like test plugs / balls?

The TDC is safe to use. It does not require inflation. Consequently, there is not concern with over inflation that can lead to rupture like a test ball/plug.

How is the TDC packaged for purchase?

The TDC is packaged 12 / case. Each TDC in the case is individually packaged in a clear poly bag.

VIP Series™ Pneumatic Test Plug

How are the VIP Series Test Plugs packaged?

They are packaged 6/case. Each plug is then individually packaged in a clear poly bag. Inside the bag we include a Safety Instruction manual that details the test plug specification for pressure as well as the dimensions. In addition, the manual details the “danger zones” when installing to ensure safe practices are followed by the plumbing contractor.

What is the maximum back pressure (PSI) that the VIP Series Test Plugs are rated?

All four sizes are rated to up to 13 PSI of back pressure. Or 30 ft water head. Thirty feet translates to approximately three stories of building height.

What is the maximum inflation (PSI) for the VIP Series test plugs?

It varies slightly depending upon the diameter of the test plug. For instance, the 1-1/2" diameter plug is rated to 40 PSI. Yet the 4" test plug is rated to a maximum inflation of 30 PSI.

Are there accessories available for the VIP Series Test Plugs?

Yes. IPS offers by hoses extensions ranging in length from 2' up to 40'. In addition, we offer inflation lift hoses from 10' to 40' used for underground installation and manhole pipe testing.

What is the warranty on VIP Series Test Plugs?

2-1/2 years or 30 months. Any bond, valve, or ring chain failure will be covered. What is not covered are cuts, punctures, dry rot or any other man made or environmental source for the failure.

Are the VIP Series Test Plugs QC tested during manufacture?

Yes. There is a 100% guarantee that every test plug is inflated and evaluated for any leaks, weaknesses or defects.

What type of valve is used on the VIP Series Test Plugs?

A traditional Schrader (bicycle) valve is used. Consequently, the valve is compatible with any traditional pump. The previous PR series test plugs used a pressure relief valve. This was changed with the VIP Series Test Plugs because we had reports of leaking of air as the pressure relief would vent by design.

What type of chain is used to hold the ring tag?

We use a sash style design made of galvanized steel that is rust proof, kink proof and superior quality that any of the competitors in this space.

Is the TDC compatible with SDR (Size Dimension Ratio) HDPE piping?

In general, the answer is no. As the ID (inside diameter) is different than that of the same size of PVC pipe.

Can the VIP Series Test Plugs be reused?

Yes. However, they should be inspected after each use and re-inflated to ensure they hold air prior to re-use as well. Our recommendation would be to not exceed more than 2-3 re-uses.

What are the features on the ring tag used on the VIP Series Test Plugs?

The ring tag is an ABS molded plastic that will not fade or discolor over time. So the relevant “safety related” text on the ring tag remains legible. In addition, we added a “comfort grip” that supports easier removal of the test plug as the end of the hydrostatic pressure testing. This grip provides added leverage for pulling out the test plug.

Can the ring tag fall into the pipe during testing?

No. The ring tag for each diameter of test plug, has a ring tag that has a diameter wider than the pipe it is being used to test. For example, the 2" VIP Series Test Plug uses a 3" diameter ring tag.

What are key differences between the new VIP Series Test Plugs and the older PR2 test plugs?

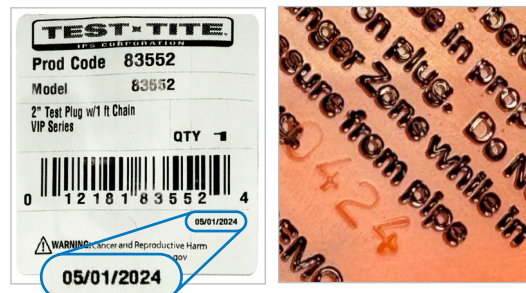
The new VIP Series Test Plugs have a less rigid design so the test plug can be bent to angle it into tight angle pipes. The new design does not have the orange plastic cap like the PR. This also makes the new design easier to manipulate into position in the pipe. The new VIP Series Test Plugs do not use a pressure relief valve. But instead uses a Schrader valve. This lessens the likelihood of air deflation of the plug.

How do I determine which test plug size to use?

Determine the ID (inside diameter) of the pipe that will be plugged, and then select the plug that matches the ID of the pipe for that application. Our VIP Series Test Plug specification sheet details the minimum and maximum pipe diameter to match to the test plug to use for your testing. For example, a 2" diameter test plug has a range from 1.75" minimum and 2.25" maximum ID pipe diameter.

How do I know the age of my VIP Series Test Plugs

The born-on date is stamped on the clear poly bag that is used to package each individual test plug. The date stamp is located on the bar code sticker affixed to the poly bag. In addition, we add a date stamp to the orange ring tag, as well.



Can you detail the most important safety tips for using the VIP Series Test Plugs?

Yes. First and foremost, stay out of the “danger zone” detailed in our Safety Instruction Manual. Never “over-inflate” the test plugs above the recommended inflation pressure. Never exceed the maximum back pressure. Make sure you release the back pressure from the pipe before deflating the plug.