




REALTOR CHEAT SHEET

PROVIDED TO YOU BY AARDVARK HOME INSPECTORS

|  PLUMBING | TYPICAL LIFE SPAN | YEARS USED | DEFECTS |
|---|-------------------|----------------|---|
| BRASS | 40-70+ yrs. | 1900-1935 | Corrosion causes leaks, Expensive |
| COPPER | 50+ yrs. | 1935 - Present | Copper pipes also encounter problems from water acidity, so they are not good to install for plumbing systems that draw water from a well. |
| GALVANIZED STEEL | 20-50 yrs. | 1900 - 1950's | Dezincification, Galvanized steel pipes may contain lead, which corrodes quickly and reduces the lifespan of the piping. |
| CAST IRON | 75-100 yrs. | 1900 - 1980's | Cast iron pipe is extremely strong and durable, but is quite brittle and if accidentally knocked will easily break. |
| PVC (Polyvinyl Chloride) | 50-80 yrs. | Late 1960's | Improper installation practices |
| POLYBUTYLENE PIPING | 25-30 yrs. | 1970 - 1990's | Prone to breakage |
| LEAD | 100 yrs. | 1900's - 1940 | Have the water tested. If results show the lead content at 15 parts per billion (15 ppb) or more, replacement needed |
| CPVC | 50-80 yrs. | 1985 - Present | Improper installation practices |
| ABS | 50-80 yrs. | 1985 - Present | Building codes in some areas no longer allow the use of ABS. Buyers should be particularly alert for leaks in ABS black plastic drain, waste or vent piping. |
| PEX | 40 yrs. | 1990 - Present | The pipe can fail when exposed to chlorine within the water, or over exposure to sunlight before installation. The leading cause of failure is caused by dezincification. |