



OFFC Education

PVC Rod Tubes

Parts and Paint

- Parts
 - 1.5 to 2 inch Schedule 40 PVC pipe 10' for less than 6 bucks
 - 1½" PVC Cap \$0.83,
 - 1½" PVC Female Adaptor,
 - 1½" PVC Plug
- Paint
 - Krylon Fusion
 - Rustoleum Plastic

Tools and Consumables

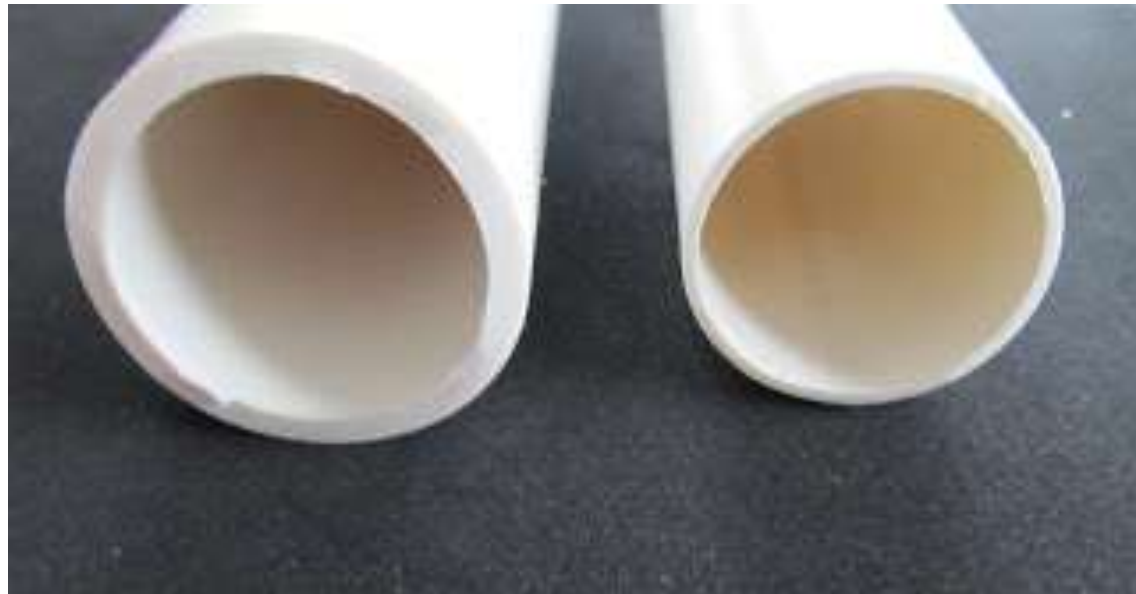
- A china marker
- A rag
- A fine-toothed, small kerfed pipe or hand saw
- PVC Primer and Cement
- Fine grade steel wool
- Acetone

PVC Rod Tube and Fittings



Schedule 40 vs 20

- Schedule 40 is thicker than Schedule 20
- My preference is 40



Tools



How to clean PVC pipe

- 1. Wipe off any loose dust with a damp rag. Then dab a little powdered cleanser onto a green nylon scouring pad, dampen and simply rub off the markings. Rinse with a damp rag. This method also removes most other marks and dirt. (Sometimes this works well, sometimes not. It depends on the ink ingredients.)
- 2. For difficult imprints, try this:
 - Soak a small chunk of 000 or 0000 steel wool in acetone and begin rubbing.
 - Don't do the whole pipe at once. Work in short sections of 2 or 3 feet, because acetone dries quickly and the marking dye tends to smear.
 - Wipe with a shop rag before the acetone dries.
 - Replace the ball of steel wool with a new one when you've done about 10 feet of pipe.
- **Caution:** Wear rubber gloves and an eye shield. Be sure to follow the directions on the acetone container. *Work in a well ventilated area.*
- 3. Sand the markings with 100-grit sandpaper. (This will, of course, rough-up the pipe a bit. So it's up to you, depending on what your project is.)
- 4. I've been told that carburetor cleaner will remove the blue lettering used by some manufacturers, as well as erase other stubborn smudges.
- 5. Wiping the pipe with lacquer thinner was suggested to me as a removal method. I've not tried methods 4 & 5. But if *you* do, the same caution applies as for using acetone.
- Finally, an easy way to cleanse PVC pipe is to...
- 6. Lightly sand blemishes and imprints with a low-cost sanding pad. Get one with medium grit on one side, fine grit on the other. (I use the 3-M brand.) You'll find them at most hardware stores.
- Sanding pads conform to the pipe's contour and will quickly remove markings with just a light pressure. To me, this is much better and easier than fooling around with acetone or other harsh chemical agents. In addition, light sanding is best to set up the pipe for proper paint adhesion.

Cutting

- Take the longest section of your rod and add 2 inches (extra if inserting foam in the ends), mark and cut.



Glue Application

- Apply the glue to both ends of the pipe



Install fittings and screw cap

Male Threaded
Cap



Female Threaded
cap

Finished product (almost...)



Sprucing it up

- Options
 - Stickers
 - Paint
 - Shelving liner
 - Thread wrapping
 - Tape
 - Labels
 - Security



Stickers



Decorating

Camo Paint



Shelving Liner



Krylon Paint

Tape & Foam Wrap



Many colors

Extra Protection



Thread Wrap



Sticky Logos



Securing the Cap



Threaded Screw keeps cap from coming off

Lanyard keeps cap together with tube



Additional Uses



Handles

