

How to Identify Your Water Service Pipe Material

Tools you may need: Screwdriver, Refrigerator Magnet, A Penny

Step 1: Locate your water meter. It may be inside: in the basement or garage.



Step 2: Find your water pipe/service line. This is the line that is connected to the water meter and comes through the wall or floor from the outside.

Step 3: Scratch the surface of the pipe. Use screwdriver or other tool to scratch through any paint or corrosion that may have built up on the outside of the pipe.

Step 4: Use the table below to determine your pipe material.



Lead

Scratch Test: The pipe is easily scratched and the area is shiny and silver.

The Magnet Test: Magnet does not stick.



Galvanized

Scratch Test: The pipe does not scratch easily and remains a dull gray.

The Magnet Test: Magnet Sticks



Copper

Scratch Test: The scratched area is copper color, like a penny.

The Magnet Test: Magnet does not stick.



Plastic

No need to scratch. Plastic can be various colors: white, blue, black, green, etc.

The Magnet Test: Magnet does not stick.