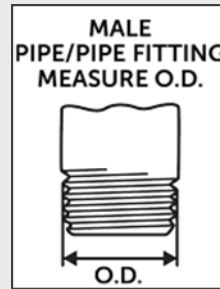
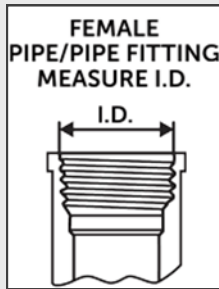


## Pipe Size Chart

Knowing the pipe size you are working with can be confusing. Many people assume that the "pipe size" refers to the outside diameter of the pipe. It doesn't. "Pipe size" refers to what is considered the nominal diameter. The nominal diameter and the outside diameter are not the same. The easiest way to know what nominal pipe size you are working with is to use a conversion chart like we have below. For male threads, simply measure the actual outside diameter of the pipe or pipe fitting and use the chart to identify the corresponding nominal diameter a.k.a "pipe size". To find a female pipe or pipe fitting size, simply measure the inner diameter of the pipe or pipe fitting and use the same chart for the nominal diameter or "pipe size".



Please also note that "pipe" and "tubing" are not measured the same way. Tubing is measured and named based on the actual outside diameter of the tube. PEX, or Cross-Linked Polyethylene Tubing is another emerging technology that is fast becoming more popular, and is also measured and named for the inside diameter measurement.

Here's an example:

- 1/2" size pipe has an **actual outside diameter of 27/32"**
- 1/2" size tubing has an **actual outside diameter of 1/2"**

O.D. (Outside Diameter) or I.D. (Inner Diameter) - In.	Decimal Equivalent In.	Nominal Pipe Size In.	Typical Threads per In.
5/16	0.313	1/16	27
13/32	0.405	1/8	27
35/64	0.540	1/4	18
43/64	0.675	3/8	18
27/32	0.840	1/2	14
1-3/64	1.050	3/4	14
1-5/16	1.315	1	11-1/2
1-21/32	1.660	1-1/4	11-1/2
1-29/32	1.900	1-1/2	11-1/2
2-3/8	2.375	2	11-1/2
2-7/8	2.875	2-1/2	8
3-1/2	3.500	3	8
4	4.000	3-1/2	8
4-1/2	4.500	4	8

### Thread Types

One of the most common thread types is National Pipe Thread or "NPT". These come in Male (NPT, MPT, or MNPT) and Female (FPT or FNTP). These are usually tapered threads used in joining and sealing pipes. Another common thread is National Standard Free-Fitting Straight Mechanical Pipe Thread. You can also call it NPSM. These straight thread pipes are typically used just for mechanical joints.



Information sources include ASME B1.20.1-1983

If you are still having difficulty choosing Pipe or Fittings,  
 please contact us at [askzoro@zoro.com](mailto:askzoro@zoro.com) or 855-289-9676

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