

What does MDPE stand for?

The most widespread misunderstanding is that MDPE stands for Mains Direct Pipe, but what does the letter E represent? The exact meaning of the acronym is Medium Density PolyEthylene.

What is the colour of MDPE (Water Mains Pipe)?

MDPE is primarily blue in colour, but it is also occasionally seen in black. This black pipe is known as Alkathene, and it is available in four different variations: Low, High, Class "C" and "D," and Low Density. It is very difficult to determine which black pipe you have come across if the outside lacks any identifying marks. In order to reduce the confusion created by these variations, MDPE was introduced for the water services industry, ensuring that a single, standard pipe colour was utilised across the entire country.

What is MDPE used for?

Because of its endurance, MDPE is mostly utilised in subterranean freshwater delivery systems for residential, commercial, and agricultural purposes. The pipe can be visible above ground, however if it is utilised above ground, it should be lagged to help prevent freezing and to guard against UV deterioration.

What size does MDPE come in for domestic homes?

For home use, a range of diameters between 20 and 63 mm are offered. However, 25mm is the most popular size for a household installation water supply, with 20mm coming in second.

How deep should MDPE be installed?

MDPE should be at least 750mm/75cm below ground, or 29½" below ground for those who still use imperial measurements. If there is no debris in the back fill, it should be covered with sand or another soft substance. The trench needs to be at least 350 mm distant from any gas or electrical pipes and large enough to identify any additional pipes.

