



Gas Pressure Tests

Fuel gas piping installation and inspections shall meet the requirements set forth in Chapter 12 of the California Plumbing Code (2007 Edition).

- ❖ Upon completion of the installation, alteration or repair of any gas piping, the Building Department shall be notified that it is ready for inspection.
 - No gas piping shall be installed in or on the ground under any building or structure and all exposed gas piping shall be kept at least six (6) inches above grade or concrete.
 - Ferrous gas piping installed underground in exterior locations shall be protected from corrosion by approved coatings or wrapping materials (*see Anode bag requirements and IS 13-91 for primer and tape requirements*). All horizontal metallic piping shall have at least twelve (12) inches of earth cover. Approved listed plastic gas piping shall have at least eighteen (18) inches of earth cover. Risers shall be metallic with approved transition fittings from plastic to metal and shall be wrapped to a point at least six (6) inches above grade. **Plastic gas piping is only approved for exterior underground installation and shall be installed with a yellow color insulated #18 minimum gauge copper tracer wire that extends above grade at both ends.**
- ❖ All new gas piping, alteration or repair, requires a **pressure test inspection**. The piping for residential pressure test shall stand a pressure of not less than three **(3) pounds per square inch** gauge pressure. The test pressure shall be held for a length of time satisfactory to the administrative authority, but in no case for less than **ten (10) minutes with no drop in pressure, using a 15 lb gauge measuring in 1/10 psi increments**. For welded piping and higher gas pressures, the test pressure shall not be less than sixty (60) pounds. **Pipe size two (2) inches and larger shall be tested with a recording device for a period of 24 hours.**
- ❖ All shut off valves are required to be disconnected and properly capped off prior to filling the system with air pressure. Also, the gas meter shall always be disconnected if you know that air pressure will be introduced into the line going back to the meter. **Not disconnecting the meter can result in damaging of the equipment.** If you have any questions about your gas meter, contact *PG & E*.
- ❖ The city does not provide any pressure gauges, ladders, air pumps or any other apparatus required for inspection or pressure testing. All necessary apparatus for conducting air pressure tests are required to be furnished by the permit holder.

Questions? Call the Building Division at (530) 757-5610