

LEAD FREE



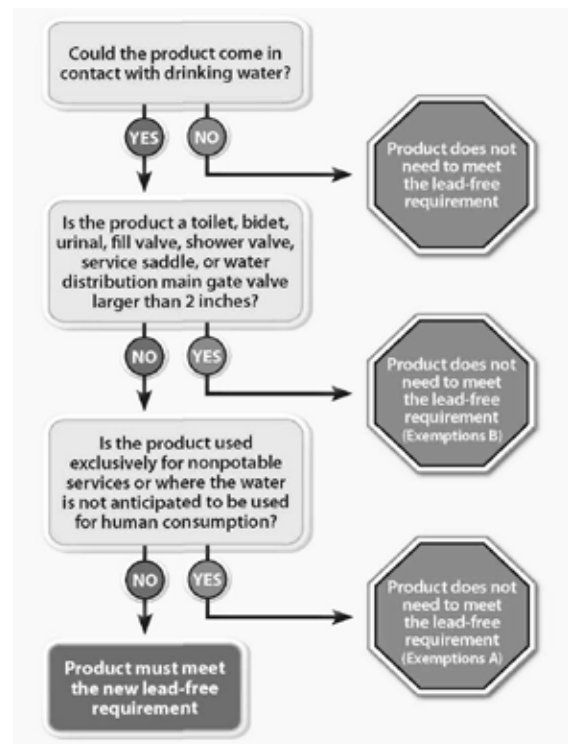
What is the new lead-free requirement?

In 2011, the Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act was signed into law. The Act has reduced the lead content allowed in drinking water system and plumbing materials by changing the definition of "lead-free" in Section 1417 of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

The term "lead-free" has been updated from not more than 8% lead content to mean "not more than a weighted average of 0.25% lead when used with respect to the wetted surfaces of pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings and fixtures."

How do I know which products must meet the new lead-free requirement?

The prohibitions on use and introduction into commerce apply to all pipe, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, and fixtures (henceforth referred to as "products"), including stocked inventories that have not been installed. This includes coated or uncoated brass or bronze materials. By using the flow-chart below as a guide, you can determine if a product must meet the new lead-free requirement:



Lead-Free Requirement Exemptions

(A) The new requirement does not apply to pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, or fixtures, including backflow preventers, that are used exclusively for nonpotable service such as manufacturing, industrial processing, irrigation, outdoor watering or any other uses where the water is not anticipated to be used for human consumption.

(B) The new requirement does not apply to toilets, bidets, urinals, fill valves, flushometer valves, tub fillers, shower valves, service saddles or water distribution main gate valves 2 inches in diameter or larger.