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New Supplies Team
Bristol Water Plc
Bridgewater Road
Bristol
BS13 7AT

Backfilling your trench

When backfilling the trench, care should be taken to ensure that no stones, bricks or other sharp objects are within the backfill material. Leaks in new pipes are sometimes caused by stones and other sharp objects pressing against the pipe. Even though they may be in an area of backfill well above the pipe, over a period of time they can gradually work their way down as the ground settles. The base of the trench should be clear of any sharp objects and the pipe should be covered with clean soil (no stones etc.).

Where, due to the nature of the ground, this is not possible, the pipe should be laid on a 100mm bed of sand or stone dust. The pipe should then be covered with 100mm of sand or dust, the remainder of the backfill should, as far as possible, be kept clear of any aggressive material. In

very poor ground conditions it may be necessary to duct the pipe throughout its length.

What about a meter?

Having a water meter fitted may save you money. If you wish, a meter can be fitted free of charge when we connect your pipe, just let us know. Further information can be found on our website.

Insulation required for MDPE pipe	
MDPE Size	Minimum insulation required
25mm	19mm thickness
32mm	13mm thickness

Electrical Earthing

Properties built before 1966 may use incoming metal water pipes as an earth for their electrical systems. Fitting a water meter to your supply may mean that this kind of earthing system will no longer work. If you are in any doubt about how your property is earthed you should contact a qualified electrician for advice.

Bristol Water staff and contractors are not qualified to advise you about electrical matters and cannot accept any legal liability for damages or injury resulting from the use of a water pipe as an electrical earth.

If you are not responsible for the electrical earthing of the property, please make sure the owner of the property or the appropriate person is aware of this information.

address: New Supplies Team
Bristol Water Plc
Bridgewater Road
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BS13 7AT

tel: 0345 602 8022

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replacing your lead or iron water supply pipe

Warning

If your installation does not comply with our standards we will ask you to alter it and will make a further inspection free of charge. If it still does not comply we will make further inspections until it does, charging a fee for each additional inspection.

If you ignore the connection point specified by our staff and bring your pipe to another position we may not connect your pipe. If we connect in the new location, other charges may apply.

