



Specialty Epoxy Putty Stick FAQs

1. Are PSI's Specialty Epoxy Putties all the same with the exception of color?

No, each product is a combination of A and B sides selected from more than a dozen activator materials and a dozen base materials developed by PSI's laboratory. Selection of each product combination was determined by extensive laboratory and field testing to provide the most outstanding performance for the specific intended use.

2. Are PSI's Specialty Epoxy Putties safe to use?

When fully cured RepairitQuik®, FastSteel®, QuikCopper®, and QuikPlastik® are approved for potable (drinking) water contact by the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF). However, direct skin contact with uncured material may cause an allergic reaction in some individuals. Epoxy resins are skin and eye irritants and known sensitizers. The use of impermeable plastic or rubber gloves when mixing and handling uncured product is highly recommended. After use, any skin areas that may have come in contact with uncured material should be washed immediately with soap and plenty of water.

3. What is the service life of cured epoxy putties?

Calculation of tensile strength retention on aging at 75°F (24°C) indicates that cured epoxy putties have a useful lifetime greater than 50 years without external influences or stresses. Cured epoxies are extremely stable materials that are resistant to degradation by environmental influences, such as atmospheric moisture, oxygen and sunlight. They are not sensitive to microbial action and will not rot. In contrast to metals like copper, steel, iron and aluminum, epoxies are highly resistant to corrosion or deterioration by dilute acids and caustics and will withstand the influence of mildly acidic water which will cause both iron and copper pipe to corrode severely. Epoxy putties contain very low levels of volatile ingredients and, therefore, undergo no weight or volume change due to plasticizer evaporation.

4. What is the shelf life of PSI's Specialty Epoxy Putties?

Officially, 2 years from date of shipment; however, from experience we know that it is several years. In a demonstration at our booth at the National Hardware Show a few years ago we were using putty more than 8 years old.

5. What happens if only part of an epoxy putty stick is used? Can the rest of the stick be saved for later application?

There may be slight oxidation (drying out) of the exposed end. This can be cut off, the remaining material can be used and it will perform like fresh material.

6. Are repairs made with PSI's Specialty Epoxy Putties considered "permanent"?

Yes, under the normal conditions for each intended use it is not necessary to follow up with further repair. PSI's Specialty Epoxy Putties are high-quality products; however, common sense must be observed regarding possible limitations.

7. Can all of the Specialty Epoxy Putties be used under water?

Yes. However, AquaMend® provides the most outstanding long-term performance for that specific use as determined by laboratory and field testing.

8. What pressure can cured epoxy putties withstand?

The pressure rating of an epoxy pipe repair depends on many things, e.g., the material being repaired, the hole size, and the corrosiveness of the environment as well as the amount of care taken in making the repair itself. In the laboratory we have demonstrated that water at 50 psi will not leak

through repairs to holes of 1/16" (1mm), 1/8" (2mm) and 1/4" (6mm) diameter drilled in 1/2" (12mm) diameter copper pipe. In another test assembly, the joints between copper to copper and copper to PVC secured with epoxy putty withstood 3,000 cycles of pressure between 0 and 50 psi with no sign of failure. Following are results of tests performed in 1993.

Water pressure test: A 1/4" (6mm) hole drilled in a standard 1/2" (12mm) copper pipe was repaired with QuikCopper® according to the directions specified for the putty. The pipe was connected to a cold water line and subjected to full line pressure which over a 24-hour period ranged from 45 to 80 psi. QuikCopper® remained leak-free at over 3,000 hours.

Air pressure test: A 1/4" (6mm) hole drilled in a standard 1/2" (12mm) galvanized-steel, high-pressure air pipe (rated at 125 psi) was repaired with RepairitQuik® according to the directions specified for the putty. The pipe was connected to a high-pressure air line and subjected to 110 psi line pressure for 8 hours a day for 7 days without an air leak.

9. Why does QuikWood® weigh half as much as the other Specialty Epoxy Putties?

QuikWood is filled with a material that makes it the same density as wood.

10. Can PSI's Specialty Epoxy Putties be used for gas tanks?

Epoxy putties have been used successfully in the past to repair leaking gasoline tanks. Since it is very difficult to properly clean and prepare the leaking area, any repair should be considered temporary until the tank can be replaced. Epoxy putty sticks are not recommended for plastic fuel tanks.

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