BEST PRACTICES FOR LG HVAC SYSTEM INSTALLATION

PROPRIETARY DATA NOTICE

⃠ Do not throw away, destroy, or lose this manual.
Please read carefully and store in a safe place for future reference.
Content familiarity is required for proper installation.

The instructions included in this manual must be followed to prevent product malfunction, property damage, injury, or death to the user or other people. Incorrect operation due to ignoring any instructions will cause harm or damage. The level of seriousness is classified by the symbols described by the summary list of safety precautions on page 3.

For more technical materials such as submittals, catalogs, engineering, owner's, building ventilation, and service manuals, visit www.lghvac.com.

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TABLE OF SYMBOLS

⚠ DANGER	*This symbol indicates an imminently hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.*
⚠ WARNING	*This symbol indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.*
⚠ CAUTION	*This symbol indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate injury.*
Note:	*This symbol indicates situations that may result in equipment or property damage accidents only.*
⃠	*This symbol indicates an action that must not be performed.*

SELECTING FIELD-SUPPLIED COPPER PIPING

Selecting Field-Supplied Copper Piping

Note:

Always follow local codes when selecting and installing copper pipe and piping system components.

Approved piping for use with LG HVAC products will be marked "R410 RATED" along the length of the pipe. Piping wall thickness must meet local code requirements and be approved for a maximum operating pressure of 551 psi. When bending piping, try to keep the number of bends to a minimum, and use the largest radii possible to reduce the equivalent length of installed piping; also, bending radii greater than ten (10) piping diameters can minimize pressure drop. Be sure no traps or sags are present.

For Heat Recovery Systems

LG prefers the use of ACR hard drawn copper on pipe segments located between heat recovery units and outdoor units, between heat recovery units piped in series, and between heat recovery units and multiple indoor units sharing an heat recovery unit port.

For Heat Pump Systems

LG prefers the use of ACR hard drawn copper for all pipe segments in the piping system except segments located between Y-branch fittings (or header fittings) and indoor units.

For DOAS Units

LG prefers the use of hard drawn copper in pipe segments connecting a Dedicated Outdoor Air System (DOAS) product and an outdoor unit.

For Single-Zone and Multi-Zone Duct-free Split Systems

Use ACR copper piping rated at the system working pressure (rated for R410A refrigerant).

Note:

Always properly support the piping as per the instructions on page 12.

Table 1: ACR Rated Copper Tubing Material.

Type	Seamless Phosphorous Deoxidized
Class	UNS C12200 DHP
Straight Lengths	H58 Temper
Coils	O60 Temper

Table 2: ACR Rated Piping Wall Thicknesses.

OD (in)	1/4	3/8	1/2	5/8	3/4	7/8	1-1/8	1-3/8	1-5/8
Material	Rigid or Soft ACR Rated for R410A			Rigid or Soft ACR Rated for R410A					
Min. Bend Radius (in)	0.563	0.9375	1.5	2.25	3.0	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.5
Min. Wall Thickness (in)	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.050

Table 3: ACR Copper Tubing Dimensions and Physical Characteristics[1-3].

Nominal Pipe Outside Diameter (in)	Actual Outside Diameter (in)	Tempered (Hard Drawn)			Annealed (Soft)		
		Nominal Wall Thickness (in)	Weight (lb/ft)	Cubic ft per Linear ft	Nominal Wall Thickness (in)	Weight (lb/ft)	Cubic ft per Linear ft
1/4	0.250	--	--	--	0.030	0.081	0.00020
3/8	0.375	0.030	0.126	0.00054	0.032	0.134	0.00053
1/2	0.500	0.035	0.198	0.00101	0.032	0.182	0.00103
5/8	0.625	0.040	0.285	0.00162	0.035	0.251	0.00168
3/4	0.750	0.042	0.362	0.00242	0.042	0.362	0.00242
7/8	0.875	0.045	0.455	0.00336	0.045	0.455	0.00336
1-1/8	1.125	0.050	0.655	0.00573	0.050	0.655	0.00573
1-3/8	1.375	0.055	0.884	0.00875	0.055	0.884	0.00875
1-5/8	1.625	0.060	1.14	0.0124	0.060	1.14	0.0124

[1]All dimensions provided are in accordance with ASTM B280 – Standard.

[2]Design pressure = 551 psig.

[3]The Copper Tube Handbook, 2016 Copper Development Association Inc., 260 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016.

Note:

- *Commercially available piping often contains dust and other materials. Always blow it clean with a dry nitrogen.*
- *Prevent dust, water or other contaminants from entering the piping during installation.*

Copper Expansion and Contraction

Under normal operating conditions, the vapor pipe temperature of an LG HVAC system can vary as much as 180°F. With this large variance in pipe temperature, the designer must consider pipe expansion and contraction to avoid pipe and fitting fatigue failures.

Refrigerant pipe along with the insulation jacket form a cohesive unit that expands and contracts together. During system operation, thermal heat transfer occurs between the pipe and the surrounding insulation.

If the pipe is mounted in free air space, no natural restriction to movement is present if mounting clamps are properly spaced and installed. When the refrigerant pipe is mounted underground in a utility duct stacked among other pipes, natural restriction to linear movement is present. In extreme cases, the restrictive force of surface friction between insulating jackets could become so great that natural expansion ceases and the pipe is "fixed" in place. In this situation, opposing force caused by change in refrigerant fluid/vapor temperature can lead to pipe/fitting stress failure.

The refrigerant pipe support system must be engineered to allow free expansion to occur. When a segment of pipe is mounted between two fixed points, provisions must be provided to allow pipe expansion to naturally occur. The most common method is the inclusion of expansion Loop or U-bends mounted in the horizontal plane. When expansion loops are placed in a vertical riser, the loop is to be formed in a horizontal fashion resulting in a torsional movement during expansion and contraction. Each segment of pipe has a natural fixed point where no movement occurs. This fixed point is located at the center point of the segment assuming the entire pipe is insulated in a similar fashion. The natural fixed point of the pipe segment is typically where the expansion Loop or U-bend should be. Linear pipe expansion can be calculated using the following formula:

$LE = C \times L \times (T_r - T_a) \times 12$

LE	=	Anticipated linear tubing expansion (in.)
C	=	Constant (For copper = 9.2 x 10-6 in./in.°F)
L	=	Length of pipe (ft.)
T_r	=	Refrigerant pipe temperature (°F)
T_a	=	Ambient air temperature (°F)
12	=	Inches to feet conversion (12 in./ft.)

1. From the table "Linear Thermal Expansion of Copper Tubing in Inches," find the row corresponding with the actual length of the straight pipe segment.

2. Estimate the minimum and maximum temperature of the pipe. Typical pipe temperature change ranges:

- Heat Recovery Systems include High Pressure Vapor: ambient temperature to 215°F; Low Pressure Vapor: ambient to 35°F; Liquid pipe: ambient, 80°F, 110°F.
- Heat Pump Systems include Vapor: ambient temperature to 215°F; Liquid pipe: ambient, 80°F, 110°F.

Choose the two most extreme. In the column showing the minimum pipe temperature, look up the anticipated expansion distance. Do the same for the maximum pipe temperature.

3. Calculate the difference in the two expansion distance values. The result will be the anticipated change in pipe length.

General Example:

A system is installed and the design shows that there is a 260 feet straight segment of piping between a Y-branch and an indoor unit. The system operates 24 hours per day. In heating, this pipe transports hot gas vapor to the indoor units at 120°F. In cooling, the same pipe (Heat Pump systems) or a Low Pressure Vapor pipe (Heat Recovery systems) is a suction line returning refrigerant vapor to the outdoor unit at 40°F. Look up the copper piping expansion at each temperature using the table "Linear Thermal Expansion of Copper Tubing in Inches," and calculate the difference.

Heat Recovery System Vapor Line

High Pressure Vapor: 260 ft. pipe at 120°F = 3.64 in.
Low Pressure Vapor: 260 ft. pipe at 40°F = 1.04 in.
Anticipated Change in Length: 3.64 in. – 1.04 in. = 2.60 in.

Heat Recovery System Liquid Line

The liquid temperature remains relatively the same temperature; only the direction of flow will reverse. Therefore, no significant change in length of the liquid line is anticipated.

Heat Pump System Vapor Line

Transporting Hot Vapor: 260 ft. pipe at 120°F = 3.64 in.
Transporting Suction Vapor: 260 ft. pipe at 40°F = 1.04 in.
Anticipated Change in Length: 3.64 in. – 1.04 in. = 2.60 in.

Heat Pump System Liquid Line

The liquid temperature remains relatively the same temperature; only the direction of flow will reverse. Therefore, no significant change in length of the liquid line is anticipated.

When creating an expansion joint, the joint depth must be a minimum of two times the joint width. Although different types of expansion arrangements are available, the data for correctly sizing an expansion loop is provided in the table "Coiled Expansion Loops and Offsets (Plan View)." Use soft copper with long radius bends on longer runs or long radius elbows for shorter pipe segments. Using the anticipated linear expansion (LE) distance calculated, look up the Expansion Loop or U-bend minimum design dimensions. If other types of expansion joints are chosen, design per ASTM B-88 Standards.

COPPER EXPANSION AND CONTRACTION

See table below for precalculated anticipated expansion for various pipe sizes and lengths of refrigerant tubing.

To find the anticipated expansion value:

1. From the table below, find the row corresponding with the actual feet of the straight pipe segment.
2. Estimate the minimum and maximum temperature of the pipe.
3. In the column showing the minimum pipe temperature, look up the anticipated expansion distance corresponding to the segment length. Do the same for the maximum pipe temperature.
4. Calculate the difference in the two expansion distance values. The result will be the change in pipe length.

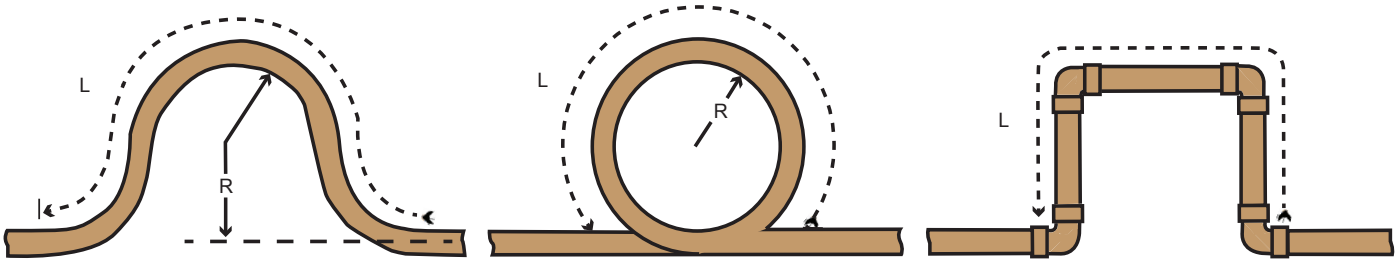
Table 4: Linear Thermal Expansion of Copper Tubing in Inches.

Pipe Length[1]	Fluid Temperature °F																			
	35°	40°	45°	50°	55°	60°	65°	70°	75°	80°	85°	90°	95°	100°	105°	110°	115°	120°	125°	130°
10	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.12	0.13	0.14	0.15	0.15
20	0.08	0.08	0.10	0.12	0.13	0.14	0.15	0.16	0.17	0.18	0.19	0.20	0.21	0.22	0.22	0.23	0.26	0.28	0.29	0.30
30	0.12	0.12	0.15	0.18	0.20	0.21	0.23	0.24	0.26	0.27	0.29	0.30	0.32	0.33	0.32	0.35	0.39	0.42	0.44	0.45
40	0.16	0.16	0.20	0.24	0.26	0.28	0.30	0.32	0.34	0.36	0.38	0.40	0.42	0.44	0.43	0.46	0.52	0.56	0.58	0.60
50	0.20	0.20	0.25	0.30	0.33	0.35	0.38	0.40	0.43	0.45	0.48	0.50	0.53	0.55	0.54	0.58	0.65	0.70	0.73	0.75
60	0.24	0.24	0.30	0.36	0.39	0.42	0.45	0.48	0.51	0.54	0.57	0.60	0.63	0.66	0.65	0.69	0.78	0.84	0.87	0.90
70	0.28	0.28	0.35	0.42	0.46	0.49	0.53	0.56	0.60	0.63	0.67	0.70	0.74	0.77	0.76	0.81	0.91	0.98	1.02	1.05
80	0.32	0.32	0.40	0.48	0.52	0.56	0.60	0.64	0.68	0.72	0.76	0.80	0.84	0.88	0.86	0.92	1.04	1.12	1.16	1.20
90	0.36	0.36	0.45	0.54	0.59	0.63	0.68	0.72	0.77	0.81	0.86	0.90	0.95	0.99	0.97	1.04	1.17	1.26	1.31	1.35
100	0.40	0.40	0.50	0.60	0.65	0.70	0.75	0.80	0.85	0.90	0.95	1.00	1.05	1.10	1.08	1.15	1.30	1.40	1.45	1.50
120	0.48	0.48	0.60	0.72	0.78	0.84	0.90	0.96	1.02	1.08	1.14	1.20	1.26	1.32	1.30	1.38	1.56	1.68	1.74	1.80
140	0.56	0.56	0.70	0.84	0.91	0.98	1.05	1.12	1.19	1.26	1.33	1.40	1.47	1.54	1.51	1.61	1.82	1.96	2.03	2.10
160	0.64	0.64	0.80	0.96	1.04	1.12	1.20	1.28	1.36	1.44	1.52	1.60	1.68	1.76	1.73	1.84	2.08	2.24	2.32	2.40
180	0.72	0.72	0.90	1.08	1.17	1.26	1.35	1.44	1.53	1.62	1.71	1.80	1.89	1.98	1.94	2.07	2.34	2.52	2.61	2.70
200	0.80	0.80	1.00	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50	1.60	1.70	1.80	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.16	2.30	2.60	2.80	2.90	3.00
220	0.88	0.88	1.10	1.32	1.43	1.54	1.65	1.76	1.87	1.98	2.09	2.20	2.31	2.42	2.38	2.53	2.86	3.08	3.19	3.30
240	0.96	0.96	1.20	1.44	1.56	1.68	1.80	1.92	2.04	2.16	2.28	2.40	2.52	2.64	2.59	2.76	3.12	3.36	3.48	3.60
260	1.04	1.04	1.30	1.56	1.69	1.82	1.95	2.08	2.21	2.34	2.47	2.60	2.73	2.86	2.81	2.99	3.38	3.64	3.77	3.90
280	1.12	1.12	1.40	1.68	1.82	1.96	2.10	2.24	2.38	2.52	2.66	2.80	2.94	3.08	3.02	3.22	3.64	3.92	4.06	4.20
300	1.20	1.20	1.50	1.80	1.95	2.10	2.25	2.40	2.55	2.70	2.85	3.00	3.15	3.30	3.24	3.45	3.90	4.20	4.35	4.50
320	1.28	1.28	1.60	1.92	2.08	2.24	2.40	2.56	2.72	2.88	3.04	3.20	3.36	3.52	3.46	3.68	4.16	4.48	4.64	4.80
340	1.36	1.36	1.70	2.04	2.21	2.38	2.55	2.72	2.89	3.06	3.23	3.40	3.57	3.74	3.67	3.91	4.42	4.76	4.93	5.10
360	1.44	1.44	1.80	2.16	2.34	2.52	2.70	2.88	3.06	3.24	3.42	3.60	3.78	3.96	3.89	4.14	4.68	5.04	5.22	5.40
380	1.52	1.52	1.90	2.28	2.47	2.66	2.85	3.04	3.23	3.42	3.61	3.80	3.99	4.18	4.10	4.37	4.94	5.32	5.51	5.70
400	1.60	1.60	2.00	2.40	2.60	2.80	3.00	3.20	3.40	3.60	3.80	4.00	4.20	4.40	4.32	4.60	5.20	5.60	5.80	6.00
420	1.68	1.68	2.10	2.52	2.73	2.94	3.15	3.36	3.57	3.78	3.99	4.20	4.41	4.62	4.54	4.83	5.46	5.88	6.09	6.30
440	1.76	1.76	2.20	2.64	2.86	3.08	3.30	3.52	3.74	3.96	4.18	4.40	4.62	4.84	4.75	5.06	5.72	6.16	6.38	6.60
460	1.84	1.84	2.30	2.76	2.99	3.22	3.45	3.68	3.91	4.14	4.37	4.60	4.83	5.06	4.97	5.29	5.98	6.44	6.67	6.90
480	1.92	1.92	2.40	2.88	3.12	3.36	3.60	3.84	4.08	4.32	4.56	4.80	5.04	5.28	5.18	5.52	6.24	6.72	6.96	7.20
500	2.00	2.00	2.50	3.00	3.25	3.50	3.75	4.00	4.25	4.50	4.75	5.00	5.25	5.50	5.40	5.75	6.50	7.00	7.25	7.50

[1]Pipe length baseline temperature = 0°F. "Expansion of Carbon, Copper and Stainless Steel Pipe," The Engineers' Toolbox, www.engineeringtoolbox.com.

COPPER EXPANSION AND CONTRACTION

Figure 1: Coiled Expansion Loops and Offsets (Plan View).



Large Tubing U-bend (>3/4 in.) Loop Small Tubing U-bend (<3/4 in.)

Note:

All expansion loops and offsets must be installed in the horizontal plane to prevent the possibility of trapping oil. Loops and offsets in vertical risers must also be installed in a horizontal plane.

Table 5: Radii of Coiled Expansion Loops and Developed Lengths of Expansion Offsets.

Anticipated Linear Expansion (LE) (in.)		Nominal Tube Size (OD) inches						
		1/4	3/8	1/2	3/4	1	1-1/4	1-1/2
1/2	R[1]	6	7	8	9	11	12	13
	L[2]	38	44	50	59	67	74	80
1	R[1]	9	10	11	13	15	17	18
	L[2]	54	63	70	83	94	104	113
1-1/2	R[1]	11	12	14	16	18	20	22
	L[2]	66	77	86	101	115	127	138
2	R[1]	12	14	16	19	21	23	25
	L[2]	77	89	99	117	133	147	160
2-1/2	R[1]	14	16	18	21	24	26	29
	L[2]	86	99	111	131	149	165	179
3	R[1]	15	17	19	23	26	29	31
	L[2]	94	109	122	143	163	180	196
3-1/2	R[1]	16	19	21	25	28	31	34
	L[2]	102	117	131	155	176	195	212
4	R[1]	17	20	22	26	30	33	36
	L[2]	109	126	140	166	188	208	226

[1]R = Centerline Length of Pipe.
[2]L = Centerline Minimum Radius (inches).

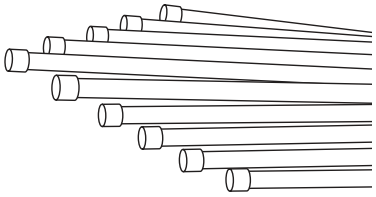
PIPING HANDLING

Piping Handling

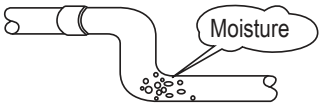
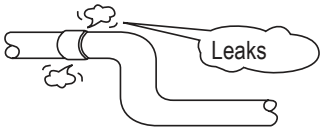
Pipes used for the refrigerant piping system must include the specified thickness, and the interior must be clean.

While handling and storing, ⃠ do not bend or damage the pipes, and take care not to contaminate the interior with dust, moisture, etc.

Keep Pipes Capped While Storing.



Keep refrigerant pipe dry, clean, and airtight.

	Dry	Clean	Airtight
	No moisture should be inside the piping.	No dust should be inside the piping.	No leaks should occur.
			
Possible Problems	- Significant hydrolysis of refrigerant oil. - Refrigerant oil degradation. - Poor insulation of the compressor. - System does not operate properly. - EEVs, capillary tubes are clogged.	- Refrigerant oil degradation. - Poor insulation of the compressor. - System does not operate properly. - EEVs and capillary tubes become clogged.	- Refrigerant gas leaks / shortages. - Refrigerant oil degradation. - Poor insulation of the compressor. - System does not operate properly.
Solutions	- Remove moisture from the piping. - Piping ends should remain capped until connections are complete. - ⃠ Do not install piping on a rainy day. - Connect piping properly at the unit's side. - Remove caps only after the piping is cut, the burrs are removed, and after passing the piping through the walls. - Evacuate system to a minimum of 500 microns and insure the vacuum holds at that level for 1 hour.	- Remove dust from the piping. - Piping ends should remain capped until connections are complete. - Connect piping properly at the side of the unit. - Remove caps only after the piping is cut and burrs are removed. - Retain the cap on the piping when passing it through walls, etc.	- Test system for air tightness. - Perform brazing procedures that comply with all applicable standards. - Perform flaring procedures that comply with all applicable standards. - Perform flanging procedures that comply with all applicable standards. - Ensure that refrigerant lines are pressure tested to 550 psig and hold for 24 hours.

Flaring and Brazing Procedures

One of the main causes of refrigerant leaks is a defective connection. For LG HVAC systems, the installer needs to know how perform both flared and brazed connections successfully.

Note:

• During installation, it is imperative to keep the piping system free of contaminants and debris such as copper burrs, slag, or carbon dust.

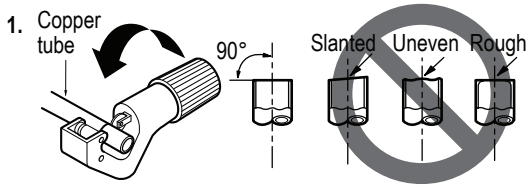
• ⃠ Do not use kinked pipe caused by excessive bending in one specific area on its length.

Flaring Procedure

Note:

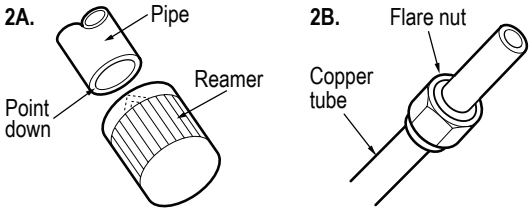
When selecting flare fittings, always use a 45° fitting rated for use with high pressure refrigerant R410A. Selected fittings must also comply with local, state, or federal standards.

1. Cut the pipe to length.
   - Measure the distance between the indoor unit and the outdoor unit.
   - Cut the pipes a little longer than measured distance.

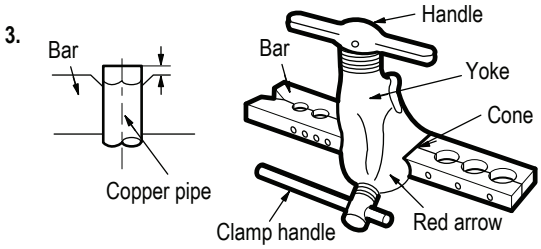


2A. Remove the burrs.
   - Completely remove all burrs from pipe ends.
   - When removing burrs, point the end of the copper pipe down to avoid introducing foreign materials in the pipe.

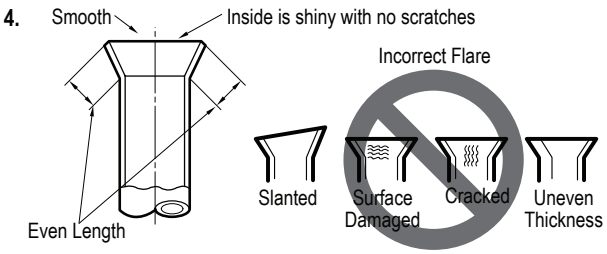
2B. Slide the flare nut onto the copper tube.



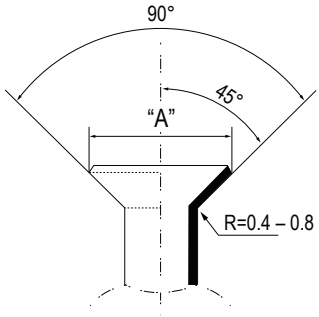
3. Flaring the pipe end.
   - Use the proper size flaring tool to finish flared connections as shown.
   - ALWAYS create a 45° flare when working with R410A.



4. Carefully inspect the flared pipe end.
   - Compare the geometry with the figure to the right
   - If the flare is defective, cut it off and re-do procedure.
   - If flare looks good, blow the pipe clean with dry nitrogen.



Dimensions of the Flare.



Flared Connection Dimensions / Tightening Torque.

Pipe Size (in. O.D.)	Outside Diameter (mm)	"A" Dimension (mm [in.])
1/4	6.35	~ 9.1 (11/32 - 23/64)
3/8	9.52	~ 13.2 (1/2 - 33/64)
1/2	12.7	~ 16.6 (41/64 - 21/32)
5/8	15.88	~ 19.7 (49/64 - 25/32)
3/4	19.05	-

FLARING AND BRAZING PROCEDURES

Tightening the Flare Nuts

Tightening Torque for Flare Nuts.

Pipe Size (in. O.D.)	Outside Diameter (mm)	Tightening Torque (ft-lbs.)
1/4	6.35	13.0 - 18.0
3/8	9.52	24.6 - 30.4
1/2	12.7	39.8 - 47.7
5/8	15.88	45.4 - 59.3
3/4	19.05	71.5 - 87.5

1. When connecting the flare nuts, coat the flare (outside only) with polyvinyl ether (PVE) refrigeration oil only.

Note:

⃠ *Do not use polyolyester (POE) or any other type of mineral oil as a thread lubricant. These lubricants are not compatible with the PVE oil used in this system and create oil sludge leading to equipment damage and system malfunction.*

⃠ *Do not add any contaminants inside the refrigerant piping.*

2. Initially hand tighten the flare nuts using three (3) or four (4) turns.
3. To finish tightening the flare nuts, use both a torque wrench and a backup wrench.
4. After all the piping has been connected and the caps have been tightened, check for refrigerant gas leaks.

Loosening the Flare Nuts

Always use two (2) wrenches to loosen the flare nuts.

Brazing Procedure

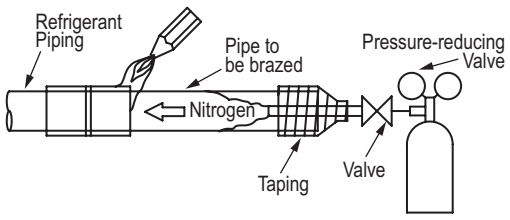
⚠ WARNING

⃠ Do not braze in an enclosed location. ⃠ Do not allow the refrigerant to leak during brazing. Always test for gas leaks before and after brazing.
If the refrigerant combusts, it generates a toxic gas the will cause physical injury or death.

Note:

Braze the pipes to the service valve pipe stub of the outdoor unit.

Figure 2: Refrigerant Pipe Brazing.



1. All joints are brazed in the field. LG HVAC refrigeration system components contain very small capillary tubes, small orifices, electronic expansion valves, oil separators, and heat exchangers that can easily become blocked. Proper system operation depends on the installer using best practices and utmost care while assembling the piping system.
2. Store pipe stock in a dry place; keep stored pipe capped and clean.
3. Blow clean all pipe sections with dry nitrogen prior to assembly.
4. Use adapters to assemble different sizes of pipe.
5. Always use a non-oxidizing material for brazing. ⃠ Do not use flux, soft solder, or anti-oxidant agents. If the proper material is not used, oxidized film will accumulate and clog or damage the compressors. Flux can harm the copper piping or refrigerant oil.
6. Use a tubing cutter, ⃠ do not use a saw to cut pipe. De-bur and clean all cuts before assembly.
7. Brazing joints:
   - Use a dry nitrogen purge operating at a minimum pressure of three (3) psig and maintain a steady flow.
   - Use a 15% silver phosphorous copper brazing alloy to avoid overheating and produce good flow.
   - Protect isolation valves, electronic expansion valves, and other heat-sensitive control components from excessive heat with a wet rag or heat barrier spray.

Proper system operation depends on the installer using utmost care while assembling the piping system. The following pages are an overview of best practices when installing the refrigerant piping system.

Note:

LG Electronics U.S.A.,Inc., is not responsible for any piping calculations, refrigerant leaks, degradation of performance, any other potential problems or damages caused by the interconnecting piping, their joint connections, isolation valves, or introduced debris inside the piping system.

⃠ No Pipe Size Substitutions

Use only the pipe size selected by the LATS pipe system design software. Using a different size is prohibited and will result in a system malfunction or failure to work at all.

⃠ No In-line Refrigeration Components

Components such as oil traps, solenoid valves, filter-driers, sight glasses, tee fittings, and other after-market accessories are ⃠ not permitted on the refrigerant piping system between the outdoor units and the indoor / heat recovery units. LG HVAC systems are provided with redundant systems that make sure oil is properly returned to the compressor. Sight-glasses and solenoid valves will cause vapor to form in the liquid stream. Over time, driers will deteriorate and introduce debris into the system. The designer and installer must verify the refrigerant piping system is free of traps, sagging pipes, sight glasses, filter driers, etc.

Field-Provided Isolation Ball Valves

LG maintains a neutral position on using isolation valves in LG HVAC refrigerant piping systems. LG does not endorse any manufacturer of isolation valves. It is recognized that installing isolation valves will simplify future maintenance requirements, and, if used, considerations must be taken including, but not limited to, the following:

- Pressure drops for any component used, including isolation valves, must be known in equivalent pipe length and calculated into the total and segment equivalent piping lengths and compared to product design limitations.
- In all cases, materials must be suitable for the application and any applicable codes, including, but not limited to, diameter and wall thickness continuity per ACR standards.

Failure to do so will cause significant performance degradation. Proper leak checks must be performed. Using isolation valves does not automatically void any LG product warranty, however, a limited warranty will be voided in whole or part if any field-supplied accessory fail in any way that causes product failure.

Using Elbows

Field-supplied elbows are allowed if they are long radius and designed for use with R410A refrigerant. The designer and installer, however, must be cautious with the quantity and size of fittings used, and must account for the additional pressure losses in equivalent pipe length calculation for each branch. The equivalent pipe length of each elbow must be added to each pipe segment in the LATS program.

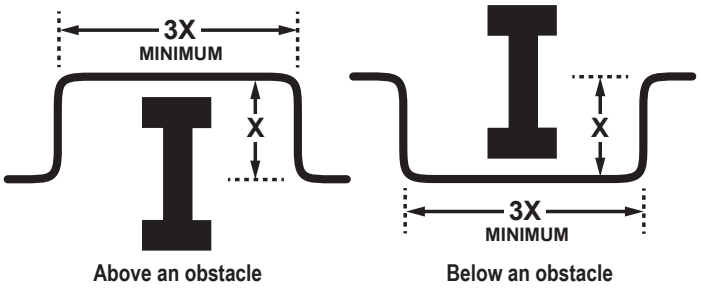
Pipe Bends

When bending soft copper, use long radius bends. Refer to the “Radii of Coiled Expansion Loops and Developed Lengths of Expansion Offsets” table for minimum radius specifications.

Obstacles

When an obstacle, such as an I-beam or concrete T, is in the path of the planned refrigerant pipe run, it is best practice to route the pipe over the obstacle. If adequate space is not available to route the insulated pipe over the obstacle, then route the pipe under the obstacle. In either case, it is imperative the length of the horizontal section of pipe above or below the obstacle be a minimum of three (3) times the longest vertical rise (or fall) at either end of the segment.

Figure 3: Installing Piping Above and Below an Obstacle.



Pipe Supports

A properly installed pipe system must be adequately supported to avoid pipe sagging. Sagging pipes become oil traps that lead to equipment malfunction.

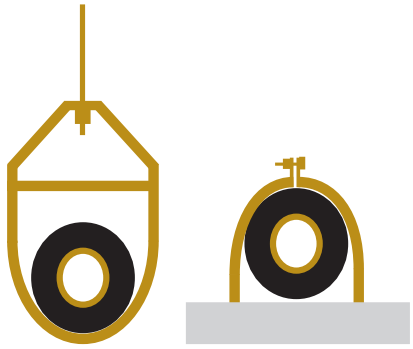
Pipe supports must ⃠ never touch the pipe wall; supports must be installed outside (around) the primary pipe insulation jacket. Insulate the pipe first because pipe supports must be installed outside (around) the primary pipe insulation jacket. Clevis hangers must be used with shields between the hangers and insulation. Field provided pipe supports must be designed to meet local codes. If allowed by code, use fiber straps or split-ring hangers suspended from the ceiling on all-thread rods (fiber straps or split ring hangers can be used as long as they do not compress the pipe insulation). Place a second layer of insulation over the pipe insulation jacket to prevent chafing and compression of the primary insulation in the confines of the support clamp.

A properly installed pipe system will have sufficient supports to avoid pipes from sagging during the life of the system. As necessary, place supports closer for segments where potential sagging could occur. Maximum spacing of pipe supports must meet local codes. If local codes do not specify pipe support spacing, pipe must be supported:

- Maximum of five (5) feet on center for straight segments of pipe up to 3/4 inches outside diameter size.
- Maximum of six (6) feet on center for pipe up to one (1) inch outside diameter size.
- Maximum of eight (8) feet on center for pipe up to two (2) inches outside diameter size.

Wherever the pipe changes direction, place a hanger within twelve (12) inches on one side and within twelve (12) to nineteen (19) inches of the bend on the other side. Support piping at indoor units, Y-branch, and Header fittings as shown.

Figure 4: Pipe Hanger Details.



Note:

Use a 4" + long sheet curved sheet metal saddles between hanger bracket and insulation to promote linear expansion/contraction.

Figure 5: Typical Pipe Support Location—Change in Pipe Direction.

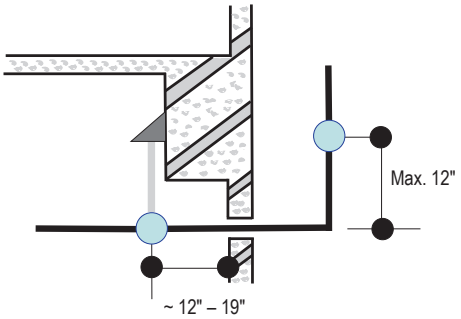


Figure 6: Pipe Support at Indoor Unit.

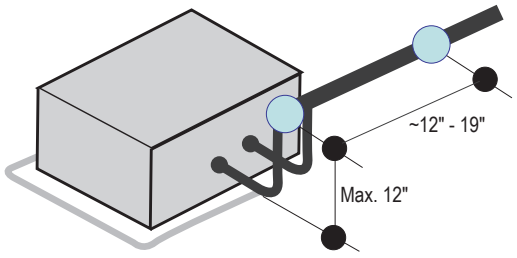


Figure 7: Pipe Support at Y-branch Fitting.

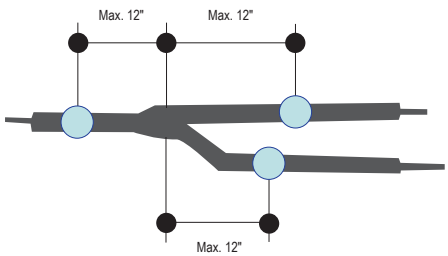
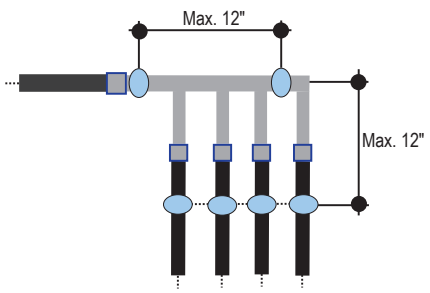


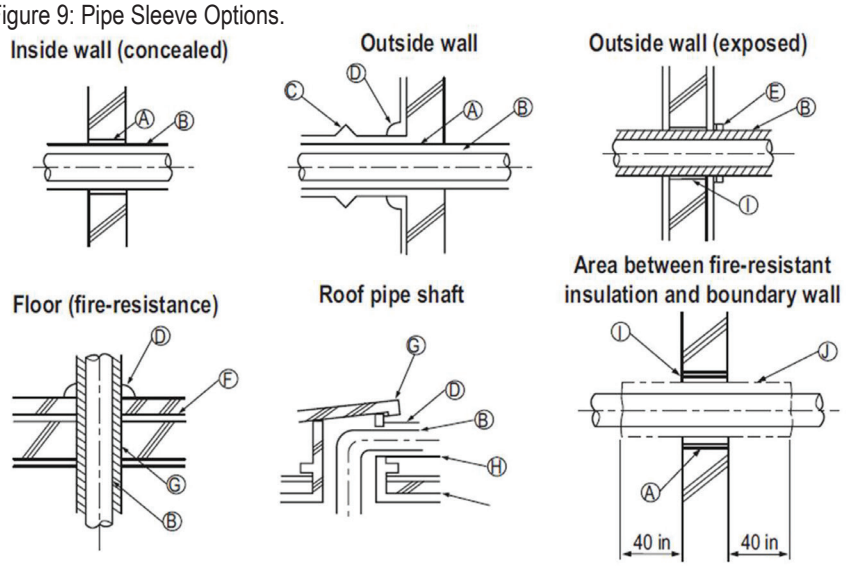
Figure 8: Pipe Support at Header Fitting.



Pipe Sleeves at Penetrations

LG recommends that all pipe penetrations through walls, floors, and pipes buried underground be properly insulated and routed through an appropriate wall sleeve of sufficient size to prevent compression of refrigerant pipe insulation and promote free movement of the pipe within the sleeve. Use 4"+ curved sheet metal saddles between the bottom surface of the pipe and the bottom surface of the penetration.

Figure 9: Pipe Sleeve Options.



Ⓐ Sleeve
Ⓑ Insulation
Ⓒ Lagging
Ⓓ Caulk
Ⓔ Band
Ⓕ Water-resistant layer
Ⓖ Sleeve with edge
Ⓗ Lagging
Ⓘ Mortar or other fire-resistant caulk
Ⓙ Fire-resistant insulation

When filling an access hole with mortar, cover the area with steel plate so that the insulation will not fall through. For this area, use fire-resistant materials for both the insulation and cover. (Vinyl cover should not be used.)

Note:

Diameter of penetrations must be determined by pipe diameter plus the thickness of the insulation.

Underground Refrigerant Piping

Refrigerant pipe installed underground must be routed inside a vapor tight protective sleeve to prevent insulation deterioration and water infiltration. Refrigerant pipe installed inside underground casing must be continuous without any joints. Underground refrigerant pipe must be located at a level **below the frost line**.

Table 6: Utility Conduit Sizes.

Liquid Pipe[1]	Vapor Pipe[1]			
	3/8 (2.0[2,5])	1/2 (2.0[2,5])	5/8 (2-1/8[2,5])	3/4 (2-1/4[2,5])
1/4 (1.0)[3]	4	4	4	4
3/8 (1-1/8)[3]	4	4	4	5
1/2 (1-1/2)[4]	5	5	5	5
5/8 (1-5/8)[4]	5	5	5	5
3/4 (1-3/4)[4]	5	5	5	5

[1]OD pipe diameter in inches; Values in parenthesis () indicate OD of pipe with insulation jacket.

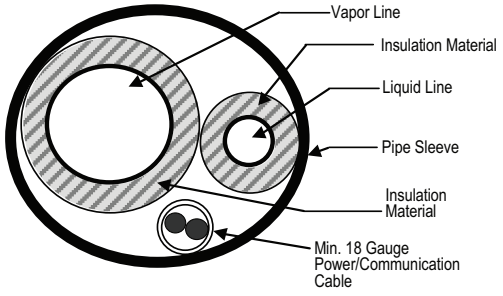
[2]Diameter of pipe with insulation. Thickness of pipe insulation is typical. Actual required thickness will vary based on surrounding ambient conditions and must be calculated and specified by the design engineer.

[3]Insulation thickness (value in parenthesis) = 3/8 inch.

[4]Insulation thickness (value in parenthesis) = 1 inch.

[5]Insulation thickness (value in parenthesis) = 3/4 inch.

Figure 10: Typical Arrangement of Refrigerant Pipe and Cable(s) in a Utility Conduit.



Note:

Provide expansion joints in long pipe segments and place in an accessible conduit box for inspection. Use galvanized curved sheet metal saddles at all mounting points. Pipe must be allowed to move freely linearly.

Refrigerant Piping System Insulation

All refrigerant piping from the outdoor unit to the indoor units / heat recovery units must be insulated correctly for safety and usage. Y-branch connections, header branch connections, refrigerant piping, field-provided isolation ball valves (if present), service valves, and elbows must be properly and completely insulated using closed cell pipe insulation (up to the indoor unit piping connections). To prevent heat loss / heat gain through the refrigerant piping, all refrigerant piping including liquid lines and vapor lines must be insulated separately. Insulation must be a minimum 1/2 inches thick, and thickness will need to be increased based on ambient conditions and local codes. The table “Minimum Refrigerant Pipe EPDM Insulation Wall Thickness Requirements” lists minimum wall thickness requirements for Ethylene Propylene Diene Methylene (EPDM) insulation.

Inside the outdoor unit, maximum pipe temperature is 248°F and minimum pipe temperature is -40°F. For field insulation of refrigerant piping between outdoor units and indoor units, consider the following pipe temperature ranges for an operating heat pump system:

- Heating mode refrigerant temperature ranges: Liquid = 75-118°F; High Pressure Vapor = 95-220°F
- Cooling mode refrigerant temperature ranges: Liquid = 75-118°F; Low Pressure Vapor = 40-90°F

All insulation joints must be glued with no air gaps. Insulation material must fit snugly against the refrigeration pipe with no air space between it and the pipe. Insulation passing through pipe hangers, inside conduit, and/or sleeves must not be compressed. Protect insulation inside hangers and supports with a second layer. All pipe insulation exposed to the sun and outdoor elements must be properly protected with PVC, aluminum vapor barrier, or alternatively placed in a weather-resistant enclosure such as a pipe rack with a top cover; and meet local codes.

LG-provided indoor unit Y-branches and headers are shipped from the factory with pre-formed peel-and-stick foam insulation jackets, with a 1.84 lb./ft.^{3} density, 1/2" thickness, and meet UL94 MF-1 flammability.

LG-provided outdoor unit Y-branches are shipped from the factory with pre-formed peel-and-stick expanded polypropylene (EPP) insulation jackets, with a 1.84 lb./ft.3 density, 1/2" thickness, and meet UL-94HBF flammability.

The design engineer must perform calculations to determine if the factory-supplied insulation jackets are sufficient to meet local codes and avoid sweating. Add additional insulation if necessary. Check the fit of the insulation jacket after the fittings and all run-out pipes are installed. Mark all pipes at the point where the insulation jacket ends. Remove the jacket. Install field-provided insulation on the run-out and main trunk pipes first. Install the LG-provided insulation plugs on the ends of all unused header ports. Peel the adhesive glue protector slip from the insulation jacket and install the clam-shell jacket over the fitting.

Figure 11: Typical Insulation Butt-Joint at Indoor Unit Casing.

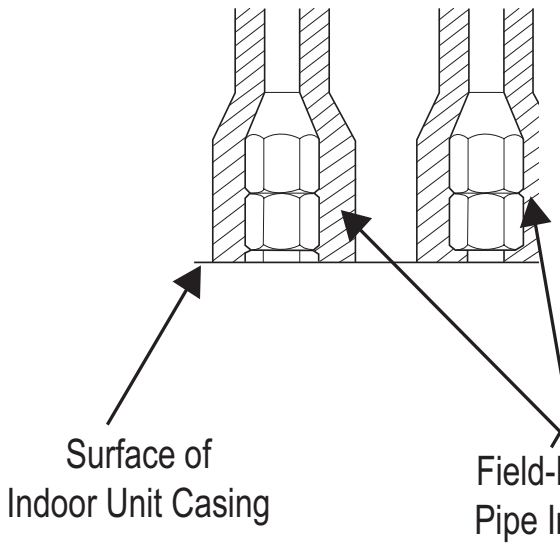
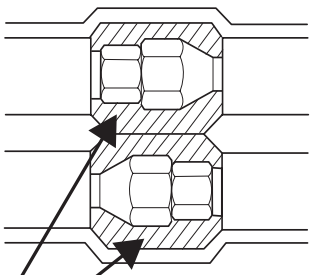


Figure 12: Typical Refrigerant Flare Fitting Insulation Detail.



Note:

- *⃠ Do not insulate vapor and liquid pipes together as this can result in pipe leakage and malfunction due to extreme temperature fluctuations.*
- *Always properly insulate the piping. Insufficient insulation will result in condensation, reduced heating/cooling performance, etc. Also, if the pipes aren't insulated properly, condensation could potentially cause damage to building finishes. Pay special attention to insulating the pipes installed in the ceiling plenum.*
- *Fully insulate the piping connections.*
- *Follow local codes and the designer's instructions when selecting EPDM insulation wall thickness.*

Table 7: Minimum Refrigerant Pipe EPDM Insulation Wall Thickness Requirements.[1]

<table>
<tr><th colspan="2" rowspan="2">Classification / Piping O.D.</th><th colspan="2">Air-conditioned location</th><th colspan="2">Non-air conditioned location</th></tr>
<tr><th>1. Typical Conditioned Location</th><th>2. Special Conditioned Location</th><th>3. Typical Unconditioned Location</th><th>4. Special Unconditioned Location</th></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Liquid pipe</td><td>ø1/4 inches</td><td rowspan="2">>1/2 inches</td><td rowspan="2">>1/2 inches</td><td rowspan="2">>1/2 inches</td><td rowspan="2">>1/2 inches</td></tr>
<tr><td>ø3/8 inches</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>≥ø1/2 inches</td><td>>1/2 inches</td><td>>1/2 inches</td><td>>1/2 inches</td><td>>1/2 inches</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="13">Vapor pipe</td><td>ø3/8 inches</td><td rowspan="6">>1/2 inches</td><td rowspan="7">>3/4 inches</td><td rowspan="7">>3/4 inches</td><td rowspan="13">>1 inch</td></tr>
<tr><td>ø1/2 inches</td></tr>
<tr><td>ø5/8 inches</td></tr>
<tr><td>ø3/4 inches</td></tr>
<tr><td>ø7/8 inches</td></tr>
<tr><td>ø1 inch</td></tr>
<tr><td>ø1-1/8 inches</td><td rowspan="6">>3/4 inches</td></tr>
<tr><td>ø1-1/4 inches</td><td rowspan="6">>1 inch</td><td rowspan="6">>1 inch</td></tr>
<tr><td>ø1-3/8 inches</td></tr>
<tr><td>ø1-1/2 inches</td></tr>
<tr><td>ø1-3/4 inches</td></tr>
</table>

[1]The thickness of the above insulation material is based on heat conductivity of 0.61 Btu/in/h/ft²/°F.

1. Typical Conditioned Location

A building plenum or space that contains conditioned air that does not exceed 80°F DB.

2. Special Conditioned Location

1. When the location is air conditioned, but there is severe temperature/humidity difference due to high ceilings.
- Church, auditorium, theater, lobby, etc.
2. When the location is air conditioned, but internal temperature/humidity are high.
- Bathroom, swimming pool, locker room, etc.

3. Typical Unconditioned Location

An unconditioned space inside a building.

4. Special Unconditioned Location: If conditions 1 and 2 below are present.

1. An unconditioned space or plenum of a building.
2. An area where there is an elevated humidity level.

5. Additional Insulation for Indoor Units Will be Required in Humid Environments.

The air conditioner factory insulation has been tested according to "ISO Conditions with Mist," and it satisfies the requirements. If the system has been operating for a long time in a high humidity environment (dew point temperature: more than 73°F), condensate is likely to form. If this happens, install 3/8 inch thick ethylene propylene diene methylene (EPDM) insulation that is plenum-rated with a heat-resistance factor of more than 248°F.

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IN_LG_HVAC_System_BestPractices_01_20
Supersedes: IN_LG_HVAC_System_BestPractices_08_17
IN_LG_HVAC_System_BestPractices_01_17