

Q: Why is soaker hose a good source of watering?

A: Soaker hose is an easy system to install and maintain. This system is environmentally safe, manufactured with recycled material and operates at a low pressure, conserving our water resources. Soaker hose allows for consistent watering to plants, enhancing homes and gardens to grow food, saving money. The convenience of this no hassle system also alleviates time in our lives.

Q: What is the difference between the 580, 700 and 820 soaker hose?

A: The numbers indicate the outside diameter (o.d.) of the hose. The smaller the number, the smaller the outside diameter. A larger diameter hose produces less friction. The 820 size allows more water to reach the end of the hose quicker, especially for longer lengths.

Q: What is the difference between a pressure regulator and a flow disk?

A: A pressure regulator reduces the operating pressure or force of water which alleviates spraying or holes in the soaker hose. Our systems require a pressure regulator to alleviate malfunction of the system.

A flow disk helps reduce the volume or amount of water flowing through the hose or pipe. Flow is measured in gallons per minute (gpm) or hour (gph). A flow disk helps equal water distribution from end to end.

Q: What is the water pressure of my system?

A: You may contact your water department for the PSI (pounds per square inch). Average household pressure has around 40 to 80 PSI and well / pump systems may be higher. Using a pressure regulator ensures the pressure remains low to alleviate system malfunction.

Q: If a hose malfunctions, such as a split or holes that spray, repairable?

A: Yes, the pressure is too high, creating these two most common malfunctions. A pressure regulator is the first recommendation to alleviate further malfunction. For areas of damage, large holes or splits, cut out the damaged hose and insert a soaker hose compression coupling to connect the two ends back together.

Q: How long should my system run to provide adequate watering?

A: Each system will be different based on the region you live, the type of soil and size of hose. A warmer climate will cause water evaporation (option: bury hose). Soil type can be classified by taking a handful and squeezing. If soil clings firmly together and forms shapes, it's clay. If soil holds together, but easily breaks apart, it's loam and if breaks into tiny grains, it's sandy. These soil textures absorb water differently: clay expands the farthest outward and down, sand expands least outward and farthest downward, and loam most consistent in outward and down. To determine the GPM of the soaker hose please see our Specifications Chart to determine your water output.

Helpful Hint: one gardener trick for adequate watering. Insert a wooden dowel reaching the root area and water based on the above facts. Once watering is completed, pull the dowel from the soil and check. If the dowel has water saturation at the base to confirm reaching the root area. This will confirm if watering time should be increased or decreased.

Q: What type of fittings do I use?

A: Compression fittings. Barb fittings that fit inside the hose tend to diminish water flow, and cause obstructions for debris and foreign particles.

Q: How do I use compression fittings?

A: Compression fittings basically work like a Chinese finger puzzle. Once you slip the connector on to either soaker hose or poly, it doesn't come back off. Simply cut the poly tubing or soaker squarely, insert the coupling with a simple push and twist motion.

Q: Why would I bury the soaker hose?

A: It eliminates water evaporation and delivers water directly to the plant root. It also gives a nicer appearance to your landscaping. When burying soaker hose, ensure ends are visible for system flushing and do not bury below 6". Watering before the sun sets or rises will decrease water evaporation. Covering soaker hose with mulch is one of the best ways to bury the hose.

Q: Can a soaker hose be run up or down a hill?

A: This is not recommended. The best installation for this is horizontally across the slope with the water source at the top of the slope. For multiple lines, horizontally across the slope, a flow disc is needed for each individual line, preventing water gathering at the lower end of the hose run.

Q: Can soaker hose be used to water the lawn?

A: It can be used on the surface for spot watering strips up to 3 foot wide. Burying soaker hose for lawns is not recommended, therefore not warranted for this purpose.

Q: Can soaker hose be used for foundation stabilization work?

A: In some clay soil, when soil dries out, it tends to shift and crack causing foundation and structure damage. The goal of a foundation repair preventive maintenance watering program is to maintain a constant level of moisture in the soil under the house and foundation. The best way to water a foundation is to place a soaker hose from one to two feet from the edge of the foundation. Placing the hose a short distance from the foundation allows the water to soak into the soil evenly. The hose should not be placed against the foundation. While soaker hose assists with this application it is not its intended purpose.

Q: Can well water or water pumped from a lake be used?

A: Well water typically contains iron and other minerals that develop deposits in the soaker hose, causing clogging. Using specified filters such as mesh filters can assist with slowing down this process. This type of water source is not recommended as sand and algae are also culprits of system malfunction.

Q: What is a calcium filter?

A: Calcium filters can be used for soaker hoses or drip irrigation systems. White build up on hose can indicate there is excess calcium in your water. By using a calcium filter, you can greatly reduce blockage by using a calcium filter. Depending on the hardness of your water, filters should be changed from once a year, to monthly depending on conditions.

Q: Why does soaker hose performance decrease over time?

A: It is normal for soaker hose to weep water at higher rate during the first 2 – 3 weeks. If you notice your soaker hose output diminishing or uneven weeping in areas, check the hose walls for buildup. A pressure purge should resolve this issue.

Q: What is a pressure purge?

A: To begin this process, remove all flow or pressure devices (regulators, flow disc). Turn your faucet all the way for 1 minute then off for 1 minute. Repeat this cycle 3 times. At the end of the third cycle remove end caps and flush out the system for about 3 minutes. Reinstall the caps, pressure regulator and flow disks.

Helpful Hint: If possible, walking on or squeezing the soaker hose (especially area of concern) will assist with breaking the buildup from the hose wall to push out during this process.

Q: How long of a run can my soaker hose go?

A: Mr. Soaker Hose has 3 different sizes, each one can extend further than the next. Standard .580 can run 100', Deluxe .700, 150' and Professional .820 can run up to 250' in one length.

Q: What is figure 8 end closure for?

A: The figure 8 end closure is used in place of the end cap for soaker hose and poly pipe. Place one end of the hose or pipe through one of the holes then double back through the bottom hole. The kink stops the flow of water.

Q: How do I winterize my system?

A: In areas of hard a freeze, drain all water from the hose. Unscrew the female end from the outside faucet. Remove all end caps to allow for drainage. If possible use air pressure to blow out all water from the system. Automatic drain valves are available. These items are standard female garden hose thread. Install at the lowest point or end of each line. When the water is turned on, the spring inside will close the valve. Once the water is turned off the spring will retract and the water will drain out.

Q: What is the difference between drip system and a soaker hose system?

A: Both systems are designed to water plants at a low pressure. Drip systems place water precisely to a plant or an area. Soaker hose emits water the entire distance making it perfect for mass plantings, small areas along a driveway or sidewalk, small pots or planters and of course garden areas.

Q: Can drip emitter and soaker hose be used together?

A: Within the same zone yes, however we do not recommend using together on the same line within the zone. Each applies water at different rates and balancing a zone to ensure each plant receives the right amount of water can be challenging.

Q: My drip emitters are clogged?

A: White buildup indicates calcium deposits from hard water. In this case remove the drippers and soak for 20 minutes in a 2% solution of chlorine or vinegar.

Q: What type of warranty does mrsoakerhose.com offer?

A: All mrsoakerhose.com soaker hose have a 5 year limited warranty against defects in workmanship and material under "normal use". This means used for low pressure irrigation with a pressure regulator of 10-25 psi. Please see warranty page for policy specifications.

Q: How do I determine what size soaker hose I have?

A: Mr. Soaker Hose is measured by the od "outside diameter" Our .580 Standard "yellow stripe" is just that, .580 od. approximately 5/8" on the outside, approx. 3/8" on the inside. The .700 Deluxe "red stripe" is almost 3/4" on the outside (3/4" of course being .750), approx. 1/2" on the inside. Finally .820 Professional "green stripe" Is approx. 13/16" OD, approx. 5/8" inside diameter. When in doubt contact your local dealer. Again, we don't mention 5/8, or 3/8, 3/4, etc.

Q: Why use MrSoakerHose.com products?

A: Here are a few reasons:

- *USA made soaker hose and poly pipe.
- *Soaker hose system is easy to install through color coordinated soaker hose and components.
- *Offering a full line of irrigation products to accommodate your needs
- *5 year limited warranty against defects in workmanship and material under "normal use"
- *Customer Service after your purchase; website references for specifications, frequently asked questions, and videos to assist with installation

Please forward your comments or additional questions to us on our web page "contact us" as we would like to hear from you.