

Finding NPT Correct Pipe Thread Size

Pipe sizes do refer to physical dimensions, but the plumbing industry standard for the sizes of pipe is not always as straight-forward as measuring the pipe. Measuring the pipe will oftentimes mislead you into choosing the wrong pipe, so do take care. The "pipe thread size" as shown in column 3 of the table below is measured and based on the inside of the pipe. But, to actually determine the size of a pipe, the outside diameter of each pipe or fitting must be measured and compared to the table for size identification. For example, a 3/4" NPT pipe thread has an outside diameter of 1.050 inches

Male threads: Measure the outside diameter of the large portion of the thread at "A"; Find figure nearest this dimension in column 1 or 2 of chart. The dimension in column 3 will be your nominal pipe thread size.

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
OD Fraction Inch (Quick Reference Only)	OD Actual (Inches)	Pipe Thread Size
5/16	5/16	1/16
13/32	32/79	1/8
35/64	27/50	1/4
43/64	27/40	3/8
27/32	21/25	1/2
1 3/64	1 1/20	3/4
1 5/16	1 23/73	1