Heat Shrink Tubing
Your Guide to Selecting the Correct Size

Heat Shrink Tubing changes shape when installed. Correctly sized tubing will conform to the substrate over which it is applied shrinking in both diameter and length which can make it difficult to select the correct size.

STEP 1:
Recovered ID vs. Size of Substrate

Proper installations require tubes to shrink by at least 20% of its supplied size but not so far that the tube reaches its fully recovered size. It's ideal to have a minimum of 10% unresolved recovery after installation.

Example:
RNF-100 size 1" recovers to a maximum of 0.50". For applications where the expected recovered size is between 0.50"+ 0.05" (i.e.-10% of 0.5") = 0.55" to; 1" - .2" (i.e. - 20% of 1.0") = 0.80"

STEP 2:
Leak Shrinkage

- Tubing will shrink in diameter and in overall length during the recovery process. *(NOTE: In certain cases, it will grow in length.)*
- Products differ in longitudinal shrinkage %'s.
- Account for shrinkage when specifying the cut length.
- Cut lengths of tubing longer than the distance being covered.

Insufficient Recovery	The Best Installation Window	Too Much Recovery

10% 20% **% Recovery** 90% 100%

DO's

Always use the specified Expanded ID dimension.

Use the specified dimensions for the recovered internal diameter of the tube. Sometimes the tube will shrink more than the Recovered ID, but it will ALWAYS meet the maximum specified dimension.

Follow the installation instructions, especially temperature guidelines:

- Too cold – tubing may not fully recover.
- Too hot – tubing may show burn marks or split.

DON'Ts

Do not force the tube over something by stretching as it can tear during recovery.

Do not cut the tube to the required final length. The tube changes length during recovery. The more it shrinks, the greater the longitudinal change.

Do not recover the tubing over anything with sharp edges.

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