

Frequently asked questions...

List of frequently asked questions about Valworx manually operated ball valves, check valves and butterfly valves.

Question	Answer
Can I run slightly over the published pressure rating of the valve?	Operating pressure should be non-shock and within the limits listed in the pressure-temperature chart found in the product data sheet.
Can you supply position confirmation switches for manual ball valves?	Yes, see "Valve Limit Switches" accessory category
What type of pipe flanges do I need for Valworx stainless flanged ball valves?	Industry standard ANSI 150 pound pipe flanges
What type of flanges do I need for Valworx butterfly valves?	Most require industry standard ANSI 150 pound pipe flanges, with the exception of sanitary butterfly valves, which require tri-clamp end connections.
What is the difference between wafer and lug butterfly valves?	Wafer valves mount between two flanges and are held in place with through bolts. Lug valves have mounting threads in the valve body and use bolts threaded into the valve body from each side of pipe flanges.
What is an NPT thread?	NPT or National Pipe Thread is the standard pipe thread used in the USA. To I.D. pipe thread size. See technical bulletin "How to I.D. NPT Pipe Sizes"
Do you have any ball valves that do not use Viton seals?	No, not at this time. Most Valworx direct mount ball valves use Teflon and Viton seals due to the extremely good leak free operation.
Can I change the flow path on your 3-way T port valve?	Yes, just remove the handle, rotate square stem to desired flow path and reassemble handle. The handle stop pin may also need to be
What is the ISO5211 mounting pattern?	ISO5211 is the International standard for actuator to valve mounting . Most Valworx valves utilize the international standard ISO5211 mounting interface. Manual valves are actuator ready. Remove the handle and mount the valve directly to a compatible actuator. No additional brackets are required.
How can I tell the flow path of a 3-way valve once it is mounted in the pipe line?	The flow path is marked on top of the square valve stem for easy identification.
Is there a specific flow direction for Valworx ball valves?	Valworx ball valves are bi-directional.
Is there a specific flow direction for Valworx butterfly valves?	Valworx iron wafer body butterfly valves can flow in either direction. Some lug body valves flow in only one direction. A flow arrow will be located on the valve body indicating flow direction if applicable. High performance butterfly valves are bi-directional.
Can you confirm the Valworx valve will work with my fluid media?	Many conditions can affect the valve choice, including, but not limited to; pressure, temperature, chemical mix, material compounding and environment. The user through its own analysis and testing is solely responsible for making the final selection. Our "Media Compatibility Guide" may be helpful in determining material compatibility. Contacting the fluid manufacturer may also be helpful in determining fluid compatibility.
What is the difference between a 3-way L-port and T-port ball valve?	The ball in the valve is drilled in either an "L" or "T" design. The ball type will define the direction of the flow through the valve.
What is the maximum allowable fluid velocity?	Metal valves: 5 to 10 feet/second, closer to 5ft/sec is better PVC valves: < 5 feet/second

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What is the maximum allowable temperature of the fluid media?	Refer to product specifications for each individual valve
Can I use Valworx valves with natural gas? Propane?	Valworx valves do not have any agency approvals for use with propane or natural gas.
Will Valworx valves work with vacuum?	Yes, in most cases. Check the valve specifications for vacuum rating
What is the maximum temperature rating for the brass/stainless ball valves?	Refer to online product specifications and data sheet
Can I use your PVC valve with compressed air as the process media?	No, PVC valves should not be used with compressed air or gases. PVC valves are primarily used with compatible liquids.
Will your valve work at a slightly lower temperature than published?	No, refer to pressure/temperature chart for minimum ratings
What happens if I use your valve at a higher or lower temperature than what you publish in P/T chart?	Working temperature should never exceed ratings listed in specifications and pressure /temperature charts
Can you supply plumbing fittings?	We do not sell plumbing fittings. These are readily available from pipe and fittings suppliers. We do offer replacement PVC end connectors as repair parts (see valve product page).
Can I use your PVC valves with sodium hypochlorite?	No, special valve construction is required.
Can I exchange my L-Port ball for a T-Port ball to convert my 3-way valve?	No, this is not possible.
Are Valworx PVC ball valves schedule 40 or 80?	<p>Our valves are designed to mate with standard IPS pipe sizes, meaning they may be glued or threaded into existing pipeline of those specifications. However, due to differences in wall thickness and pressure ratings, they do not meet the "Schedule 40/80" standard, regardless of valve size.</p> <p>The user, solely through their own analysis must determine suitability for use in any application.</p>
Do you offer replacement seal kits?	Yes - for most Stainless and Sanitary Stainless valve lines. See repair parts tab on the valve's product page for availability.
Are Valworx valves rated for steam?	In some cases. Confirm compatibility with your pressure/steam/temperature requirements via the specific valve or actuated valve's data sheet. High temperature accessory brackets may be advisable to protect components.
Can Valworx valves be dismantled for cleaning or repair?	<p>Most typical ball and check valves can be, except for Brass and Ductile Iron butterfly options.</p> <p>Repair kits are shown in the repair parts tab for an individual valve if applicable.</p> <p>The easiest options for repairable valves are Sanitary valves and 3 Piece (3 pc.) stainless valves, as they are constructed in such a way to allow for disassembly while still in service (once pressure is relieved from the pipeline).</p>
Can 3-Way manual valves flow in any direction, or are they limited to the default position that they ship in?	If operated manually, most 3-way valves have a stop pin, which prevents the handle from rotating more than 90 degrees. The stop pin can be moved to a different hole in the mounting pad to allow for alternate positions. They may also be mounted to an actuator in any desired flow pattern.

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Does a 3-Way valve mix any flow of media while cycling between its positions?	Yes, due to the geometry of any full port 3-ported valve, there will be some mixing between positions. For a visual of how <i>much</i> mixing occurs, please refer to our Technical Resource Bulletin "3-Way Ball Valve Flow Paths".
Are Valworx valve's lubrication Silicone free?	Yes
If my Valworx valve needs lubrication, what would you recommend?	A typical machinery oil (compatible with all listed seats/seals), or a food grade or FDA approved vegetable or similar natural oil spray can be used in Sanitary valves. Do not use mineral oil.
Do you offer linear control valves?	Most full port ball or butterfly valves are characteristically non-linear in their flow. If this is required, we do offer stainless steel V-Port ball 2-way ball valves, which can create an almost linear flow output when paired with a positioning actuator. See our V-port category options.
Are all Valworx valves safe for potable/drinking water?	No. Valves specifically meant for use with drinking water are marked to specify this on the data sheet or descriptions. Standard Stainless Steel ball valves are not, however Sanitary Stainless Steel ball valves are. Our PVC and Brass ball valve lines are lead free and suitable for use with drinking water, to NSF standards.
What makes a valve suitable for sanitary applications?	Construction of the internal components, including a hygienic and cavity free seat design. Their highly polished ball and interior allows for ease of flow, with no potential for valve media becoming lodged behind the valve's ball. In addition, the lack of NPT threaded end connections in favor of Tri-Clamp end connections ensure that they will not lead to cross contamination. All Valworx sanitary valves feature a Tri-Clamp flange connection as standard. Tri-Clamps are sold separately as accessory items. Gaskets are not included.
What is the purpose of a check valve?	Check valves are designed as backflow preventers for water, air, oil, and other media compatible with the materials of construction. A spring loaded or floating ball design reduces water hammer potential. Check valves are meant for non-viscous, smooth flowing, non-particulate media.
What is the cracking pressure of Valworx check valves?	See valve data sheet for the stock # in question.
How do I decide between 3-Way L and T-Port valves?	Generally this must be decided by first determining whether diverted flow or mixing flow is a requirement of the application. Valworx cannot specify what will be best for any application. L-Port valves can only utilize a front "common" port, and divert flow between the two remaining left and right ports, forming an "L" path. T-Port valves can flow between any open port at full pressure. Once attached to an actuator, you are only limited by the two 90 degree end stop positions of the actuator. This allows for mixing or diverting in a number of potential directions. This potential makes T-Ports more versatile. For more information, reference the ProTips category, and find bulletin option "3-Way T-Port Ball Valve Position".

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When should I use a Scotch Yoke air actuator instead of a Rack and Pinion model?	<p>While neither option can be considered “better” than the other, both have unique characteristics to consider.</p> <p>Rack and pinion actuators are typically more compact in design, and provide a constant torque output through complete stroke.</p> <p>Scotch yoke actuators are typically lower cost, and feature a higher torque output even at the same frame size. Their stroke design means they have a variable torque output, and are not interchangeable between double acting (DA) and spring return (SA) models.</p> <p>Pre-designed and engineered Valworx actuated valves utilizing either actuator type have taken all of the above into account along with a safety factor, eliminating the guess work out for the end user.</p>
Do you have higher pressure valves available than 1000 PSI rating?	Yes, please see “High Pressure Valves” categories on the website.
Do you have any fire safe, pipeline approved or low emission valves?	Yes, we offer a line of Flange valves which feature a number of certifications to these standards, see website and associated data sheets for all approvals listed.
Are flange gaskets required for your flange or butterfly valves?	Flange ball valves and High Performance butterfly valves require gaskets. PVC and Ductile Iron series butterfly valves have integrated gasket designs, such as EPDM or NBR. Integrated gaskets required no additional gaskets when installing.
How are Tri-Clamp sizes determined for piping?	Tri-Clamp sizes are an industry standard. They are not determined by the OD of the valve’s end cap. Refer to any tri-clamp category for the Pipe Size to Tri-Clamp size comparison, or reference the data sheet for the valve for detailed dimensions.
Are sanitary Tri-Clamps suitable up to 1000 PSI?	Valworx tri-clamp accessories are suitable up to 150 PSI, though the valve body’s shell pressure rating is much higher. Higher pressure applications may require higher rated tri-clamp designs than those we currently offer.
What type of PVC is used with Valworx PVC ball valves?	Refer to PVC valve data sheets, under valve construction
Do you offer Material Test Reports (MTR), Mill Certificates, or Certificates of Compliance (C of C)?	MTR are available for our stainless valve product lines. Certificates of Compliance may be generated for any Valworx item. Please request at time of ordering for faster procurement.