

# Pipe identification



This document summarises the marking requirements for services conveying water identified in BS 1710:2014, it should be read in conjunction with the standard itself.

Annex F is dedicated to marking of water services.

## Service Identifiers:

Every service must be marked with a visible, directly applied service identifier as shown below.

- a basic identification
- a code colour or safety band

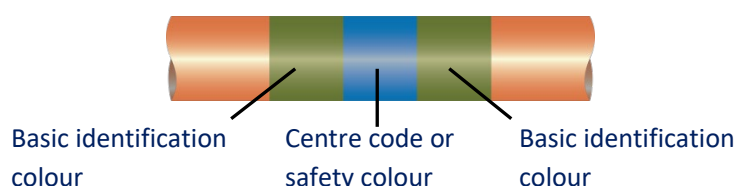


Figure 1: illustration showing service identifiers

In addition to identifying the contents additional information about the type of service e.g. details about the source of water, direction of flow or operational parameters, should be provided.

## Specific requirements for water services:

Services containing any water, either drawn from a public, private or alternative source are classed as water services. The basic identifier of all water services is green. The code or safety colour is determined by the water source and end use. All water services must be identified by the basic identification green and code and safety colours.

Table1: Identification colours: water services only (based on table 1 in BS 1710:2014)






Service	Colour	BS 4800:2011 colour code	Example
<b>Basic identification colours</b>			
Water	Green	12 D 45	
<b>Code and safety colours</b>			
Fire	Red	04 E 53	
Water from a public supply	Auxiliary blue	18 E 53	
Water from any other source	Flint grey	00 A 09	
Warning	Yellow	08 E 51	

Table 2: Service identifiers for water services (based on table F.2 in BS 1710:2014):

Pipe contents	Basic identification colour	Safety and Code Colours				Basic identification colour	
Source of water							
Potable water derived from the public water supply (i.e. water undertaker)	Green	Auxiliary blue				Green	
Potable water derived from any other source (e.g. borehole)	Green	Flint grey				Green	
Water quality							
Non-potable water system derived from any other	Green	Flint grey	Black		Flint grey	Green	
Non-potable water system derived from the public water supply	Green	Auxiliary blue	Black		Auxiliary blue	Green	
Safety systems							
Potable fire safety system derived from the public water supply	Green	Auxiliary blue	Red		Auxiliary blue	Green	
Potable fire safety system derived from the any other source	Green	Flint grey	Red		Flint grey	Green	
Non-potable fire safety system derived from the public water supply e.g. includes storage	Green	Auxiliary blue	Black	Red	Black	Auxiliary blue	Green

Colours in these examples are for illustration only. Permission to reproduce extracts from BS 1710:2014 is granted by BSI Standards Limited (BSI). No other use of this material is permitted. The complete British Standard can be purchased from the BSI online shop: <https://shop.bsigroup.com/ProductDetail?pid=000000000030283829>

### Application:

Service identifiers must be suitable for the intended use.

Basic identification colours can be applied over the whole length of a service or as bands. The minimum band width of the basic identifier and code or safety colour is dependent upon the service diameter. All code or safety colours should be of equal width.

Service identifiers (code and/or safety colour bands for services where the basic identification colour has been applied over the whole length) must be applied at junctions, both sides of a valve and wall penetration, they shall be readily visible in every section or compartment (e.g. between floor joists). Concealed services shall be marked at regular intervals of not more than 500mm.

Service identifiers and any supplementary information must be readily visible from floor level or platform/walkway. If a service identifier is obscured by a covering or is not readily visible additional service identifiers are required.

Supplementary information and direction of flow arrows can be either placed directly on the pipe or a label adjacent to the identification code.

Decorative or protective coverings shall be of a contrasting colour to the basic identification colour.

For below ground installation in addition to any trench marker tape a continuous spiral of identification tape, marked in accordance with the appropriate service identifier, can be used for identification. This tape must be fit for purpose.

Any service identifier damaged or removed as a result of work carried out shall be replaced.

