Technical Advisory

Plumbing, Cutouts and Installation for the Polyslab Pump Cover

The pressure outlet of many pump systems will be higher than the perforations on the narrow side of the pump cover. There are 3 traditional ways to make your spigot exit where you want it to:

1: PVC Elbows:

This method uses one 1" 90° elbow (female thread to slip), two 1" 45° elbows (slip x slip), one 1" X 3/4" threaded bushing, and two lengths of pipe (one 2" piece to connect the 90° fitting to the top 45° fitting and one section about 5-1/2" long).

The top of the 90 degree elbow in our example is about 20". We want our spigot to be up high where it's easy to reach but still inside the pump cover perforations, so we're aiming for a final top elevation of 16". We have 4" of vertical height to drop so we use the formula: 4" X 1.4142 = 5.66" of pipe in our 45 degree section. Most fittings will add a little to the final pipe length, so your final elevation will be a little lower than the math formula. Dry fit and adjust if necessary.

2: Bent PVC Pipe:

This method involves the use of heat and/or flame which can lead to burns and/or other injury. Please use gloves and other safety equipment and proceed at your own risk.

You can accomplish the same as above by bending a piece of PVC pipe as shown. One way is to fill the piece
of pipe with sand, put caps on the ends and heat in the oven at 210°F until the PVC is pliable. It may take more than one attempt but with patience you can end up with a piece like the one shown. The other method is to soften the PVC pipe with a propane torch. This method is trickier but can be accomplished with practice.

3: Flexible PVC:

This method simply involves the use of flexible PVC. The downside of this method is that the hose bibb will naturally want to bend downward and not stay in a typical rigid position. Flexible PVC is available from RainHarvest Systems online or from your local hardware store. In this case, you will use a section of 1" flexible PVC between the 1" 90° elbow and the hose bibb fitting. The hose bibb fitting will be a 1" slip X 3/4" female threaded adapter.

Cutouts for the Pump Cover

The Polyslab Pump Cover is molded with cut-and-snap areas which make it easy to customize for your pump system. Photo to right shows the areas where cuts should be made.

Before cutting the cover for the plumbing, secure the pump to the base using appropriate hardware (stainless steel is recommended to prevent rusting). Once the pump is secured, identify where the pipes will be situated once installed. Carefully cut the snap entry points along the guides using a blade or other suitable cutting tool.

Finishing the Installation

Place the Pump Cover over the pump and Polyslab Base. For additional security, the Cover can be secured to the Base (e.g. using screws, sealant, locking system).