

# Choosing a Pressure Hose

**Smart Tips for making the right purchase.**

**The most common mistake** made when purchasing pressure hose is equipping a machine with a hose that has too low a working pressure. A 3000 PSI machine should be equipped with a hose that has a working pressure of more than 3000 PSI. This advice comes from years of field experience using various hoses. Always size the working pressure of the high-pressure hose over the pressure washer operating pressure. As an ex-contractor of the 70's & 80's using a 2-wire, higher pressure hose was never my first choice simply because it typically weighed almost twice as much as a 1-wire hose. Now days when comparing a 50' 1-wire 4,000 psi hose to a 2-wire 6,000 psi hose the weight difference is as low as 2 pounds per section.

**Hose technology has** changed dramatically over the last 20 years. In my day if a hose would last 1-month you would 'kiss the ground' and bury it in the nearest dumpster. Now we have customers who tell us that our Serpentine hose will give them as much as 6-months of service.

Before I tell you that you should read our technical bulletins on high pressure hose at:

<http://www.envirospec.com/techlib>

Let me leave you with these few recommendations for purchasing a hose.

1. Purchase a 6,000 psi hose even if you are running a 3,000 psi system. The hose will last twice as long and even though it weighs a couple of pounds more it will make your muscles bigger!
2. For all of you truck washers out there - never position your equipment in the parking lot in such a manner where

other tractor/trailers are driving over your hose while you are washing. This is responsible for more hose failures than any other single happening.

3. For all of you who have been buying 'Blue' or 'Yellow' Non-Marking hose for all of these years - There is no such thing! The only true nonmarking hose in the industry is 'grey'. Why? Grey hose does not contain 'carbon-black'. All other colors do and this is what causes marks as the hose vibrates on the surface.

—John Allison

**Did you know that you can order the equipment and chemicals you need 24 hours a day at [EnviroSpec.com](http://EnviroSpec.com)? Before work, after work, or whenever it's convenient.**

## **TECH-TALK: HOSE LENGTH**

*Hoses are a wear item. With use they will need to be replaced. That's why it is usually a good idea to purchase hose in fifty-foot sections. If you generally use one hundred or more feet of hose, there are still very good reasons to use fifty-foot sections. When a hose fails, losing a fifty-foot section and still having good hose enables you to continue working. Having sections of hose also enables you to only use as much hose as you need, saving wear and tear on the rest. One other reason is the cost of custom made lengths of hose. Production made hose lengths are less expensive.*

**Find more helpful tips at [EnviroSpec.com/techlib](http://EnviroSpec.com/techlib)**

*On the left, click on "Hose - High Pressure" to explore these topics:*

*Bend Radius  
Burst Pressure  
Description*

*Hose Care  
Hose Repair  
Non-Marking Hose*

*Sewer Jetting Hose  
Strain Reliefs  
The Hose Whip*