| Scaling, Pitting and Leaching | Absence of scaling, pitting and leaching leads to full bore flow | Scaling, pitting and leaching lead to reduced bore flow | Severe scaling, pitting and leaching leads to reduced bore flow | Scaling, pitting and leaching may occur and reduce bore flow |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thermal Conductivity & Insulation Levels | Lower thermal conductivity reduces heat loss and requires reduced insulation levels | Extremely high thermal conductivity increases heat loss and requires higher insulation | Extremely high thermal conductivity increases heat loss and requires higher insulation | Higher thermal conductivity than CPVC; more heat loss and requires higher insulation levels |
| Bacterial Growth | Extremely low | More than that in CPVC | More than that in Copper | Higher than that in CPVC |
| Fire Resistance | LOI is 60%; hence does not catch fire or sustain burning | Being metallic, exhibits better resistance to fire | Being metallic, exhibits better resistance to fire | LOI is 18%; hence can easily catch fire and sustain burning |
| Installation | Easy through cold welding: requires less man hours. No electric/ heat source required | Requires highly skilled manpower and electric/ heat source | Extremely slow; requires more man hours | Jointing process is by heat fusion; requires greater skill and electric/ heat source |
| Leakage | Leak-free installation for life | Leak-free, provided carried out by highly trained manpower | Always susceptible to leakage from initial day of installation | Relatively leak-free provided skilled manpower is employed |
| Thermal Expansion | Lower; leads to lesser pipe expansion, lesser looping and offsets | Although thermal expansion is lower, the stress induced is far greater | Although thermal expansion is lower, the stress induced is far greater | Higher expansion leads to more looping/ offsets |
| Special Tools | Simple cutter or Hex-Saw Blade and CPVC solvent cement are adequate for 100% leak-proof joints and satisfactory plumbing | Requires special tools like metal cutting flame torch, solder, flux, etc. to carry out desired plumbing procedures | Requires heavy tools for pipe cutting, threading and fitting to carry out the desired plumbing | Requires special Electrical Heater to achieve the perfectly welded joint. Any failure results into wastage and poor plumbing |
| Range of Fittings | Wide range | Limited range, needs frequent cutting and welding | Limited range | _ |

Range of Fittings

