

How to identify the size of a BSP threaded fitting

Most fittings used in UK for irrigation, pump inlets and outlets, plumbing pipework and general commercial and industrial pipework is carried out using pipes and fittings that have a BSP thread.

Just to confuse you, we generally refer to a fitting by size, a 1" BSP nipple is also known as a 25mm BSP nipple but this actually refers to the inside diameter. The outside diameter for a 1" BSP fitting is not 1" or 25mm it is in fact 33.249 mm at the widest point.

To identify exactly which fitting you have, measure across the thread where the red arrows are on the image below. Now refer to the "Actual Major Diameter" column on the chart and then look left to see the Imperial name of that size. Below is the chart of names and actual measured sizes for BSPT fittings.

Imperial Name	Actual Major	Actual Major
BSP	Diameter in mm	Diameter in inches
	Between red arrows	
1/8"	9.728mm	0.383
1/4"	13.157mm	0.518
3/8"	16.662mm	0.656
1/2"	20.995mm	0.825
3/4"	26.441mm	1.041
1"	33.249mm	1.309
1 ¼"	41.91mm	1.65
1 ½"	47.803mm	1.882
2"	59.614mm	2.347
2 ½"	75.184mm	2.96
3"	87.884mm	3.46
4"	113.03mm	4.45
5"	138.43mm	5.45
6"	163.83mm	6.45



To accurately identify any BSPP or BSPT fitting, measure from one side of the thread to the other and refer to the chart above. EG: If the fitting measured 33.249mm across, it is a 1" BSP fitting and you would refer to it as a 1" BSP fitting. A 2" fitting would measure 59.614mm across the threads, it is called a 2" BSP fitting.