

When to “Think Clay”

- “Installed right, clay pipe lasts forever”
- Still, the material must fit the project
- Here’s guidance from people designing and maintaining gravity sewer systems



“When to Use Clay”

- 1 “When you care about ‘cost per year of service’ more than ‘cost Year One’”
- 2 “Industrial areas”
(clay is inert, so virtually no chemicals affect it)
- 3 “Deeper jobs”
(must bear heavier loads so rigid & stronger material better)
(require more shoring, so shorter sections better)
- 4 “Bad soil”
(rigid material provides stability, where shifting sand, for example, does not)
- 5 “If you have to cross an unstable area”
(e.g. a fault line, a wash)
- 6 “Seismic areas”
(shorter lengths of rigid materials, with flexible joints, proven superior)
- 7 “If you don’t want to touch it again”
(e.g. in high traffic or other expensive-to-disrupt areas)
- 8 “If you don’t want deflection issues”
(where you need to be sure the flow doesn’t get reduced)
- 9 “When you care about sustainability and going green”
(no sewer pipe material is more natural and better for the planet)

“Clay will never wear out. It’s abrasion resistant and inert. Now with modern joints and good installation practices, its life expectancy is unsurpassed.”

Rob Hamers, Consulting Engineer
Costa Mesa, California

Clay Sewer Pipe Isn’t Right for Every Job. It requires specific handling and installation methods. So we train installers and inspectors to help you get the benefits you seek. And your rate payers get a project that lasts hundreds of years.

What’s best for your project? Material selection depends on a variety of factors. Other materials may make more sense. Consider these suggestions from system designers, owners and operators as you plan your next project.



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