

CORDIVARI

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Connecting Your Cordivari Radiator Valves (U.S. Installations)

This page explains how to connect Cordivari “Total Color” valves to typical U.S. piping.

You can give this to your plumber so they can prepare the piping **before** the radiator arrives.

Most U.S. homes use **1/2" copper or 1/2" PEX** pipes in the wall.

Important: Metric Valve Connections

Cordivari valves are made in Italy and use **metric connections at the valve inlets**.

U.S. piping and fittings are usually **1/2" NPT** (National Pipe Thread) or 1/2" copper/PEX.

Because of this, you cannot screw the valve directly onto a standard 1/2" NPT fitting.

There are **two correct ways** to make the transition:

- **Option 1 – Use the stainless NPT adapter (fastest, easiest)**
- **Option 2 – Create a 15 mm stub-out (best “Total Color” look)**

Both options are safe and code-friendly when installed correctly.

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Option 1 – Standard Connection (Using NPT Adapter)

Who this is for:

Homeowners and plumbers who want the **simplest, most familiar U.S. connection** and don't mind a small stainless steel ring being visible between the valve and the pipe cover.

How it works:

1. The stainless **NPT adapter** (supplied by Cordivari) screws onto the **metric valve inlet**.
2. The adapter converts the valve to a standard **1/2" NPT** connection.
3. The plumber then uses any normal U.S. fitting, for example:
 - 1/2" **MIP × 1/2" copper sweat** adapter, or
 - 1/2" **MIP × 1/2" PEX** adapter, or
 - 1/2" **MIP × 1/2" press** or **push-to-connect** adapter.
4. The piping is completed as with any other 1/2" NPT radiator valve.

Things to know:

- This is the **quickest and easiest** option for most plumbers.
- The **adapter is stainless steel**, so on "Total Color" valves it will sit between the valve and the pipe cover and slightly break the "all one color" look.
- Functionally, once the adapter is installed, the valve behaves like any other **1/2" NPT** radiator valve used in the U.S.

Option 2 – Total Color Connection (15 mm Stub-Out)

Who this is for:

Homeowners and designers who want the installation to be **100% Total Color**—from the radiator, through the valve, to the pipe cover and wall—**with no visible metal adapter**.

Basic idea:

Instead of adapting the **valve** to U.S. threads, we adapt the **pipng** to match the valve. The plumber creates a short piece of **15 mm copper pipe** (a “15 mm stub-out”) coming out of the wall, and the valve connects directly to that using the metric compression fittings supplied.

How it works (for the plumber):

1. Inside the wall or behind the escutcheon, the plumber installs a **1/2" to 15 mm adapter**:
 - From **1/2" copper** → 1/2" copper × 15 mm copper coupling, *or*
 - From **1/2" PEX** → 1/2" PEX × 15 mm copper adapter (or push-fit 1/2" CTS × 15 mm).
2. From that adapter, they run a short piece of **15 mm copper tube** out through the finished wall.
3. The **painted pipe cover and wall escutcheon** slide over this 15 mm tube.
4. The valve then connects directly to the 15 mm tube using the **metric nut and olive** supplied with the valve.

Things to know:

- All transitions (1/2" U.S. pipe → 15 mm) are **hidden behind the escutcheon or inside the wall**.
- Everything visible—from radiator, to valve, to pipe cover—is **Total Color, with no visible stainless adapter**.
- This option takes **a bit more planning**, but gives the cleanest visual result.

For the Homeowner – Which option should I choose?

- Choose **Option 1 (NPT adapter)** if:
 - You want the simplest, most familiar install for your plumber.
 - You don't mind a small stainless steel ring between the valve and the pipe cover.
- Choose **Option 2 (15 mm stub-out)** if:
 - You care a lot about the "all one color" look.
 - You're willing to have your plumber do a slightly more specialized connection so that **no metal adapter is visible**.

You can send this page and the attached diagrams to your plumber so they can prepare the rough-in **before the radiator arrives**.

Notes for the Plumber

- Do **not** attempt to screw metric threads directly into 1/2" NPT fittings.
- **Option 1:** Use the supplied stainless adapter to convert to 1/2" NPT, then proceed with normal U.S. fittings.
- **Option 2:** Use proper 1/2" → 15 mm transition fittings and **15 mm copper tube** to create a stub-out for the metric compression connection.
- Always **pressure-test** the system according to local code after completing the connections.



Connecting Cordivari Valves to U.S. 1/2" Copper or PEX Systems

15 mm Stub-Out, No NPT

1. Prep wall copper: Run 1/2" copper to each valve point. Cut, deburr, and clean.
2. Sweat reducer: Sweat a 1/2" sweat × 15 mm sweat reducing coupling onto each 1/2" copper branch.
3. Make stub-out: Sweat a short piece of 15 mm copper into each coupling. After finishes, trim so ~3/4" (18–22 mm) of 15 mm tube projects beyond the wall.
4. Covers on: Slide pipe sleeves + escutcheons over the 15 mm stubs to the wall.
5. Fit valves: Place a 15 mm olive on each stub, seat the Cordivari 15 mm valve, and tighten the 15 mm compression nut while holding the valve body.
6. Connect & test: Mount radiator, make valve unions, fill/purge, and pressure-test per code. Check all joints.

What you'll need:

- 1/2" copper, (2) 1/2" × 15 mm sweat couplings
- Short 15 mm copper pieces
- Cordivari 15 mm valves (with olives, sleeves, escutcheons)
- solder/flux (or approved press).

Why this method:

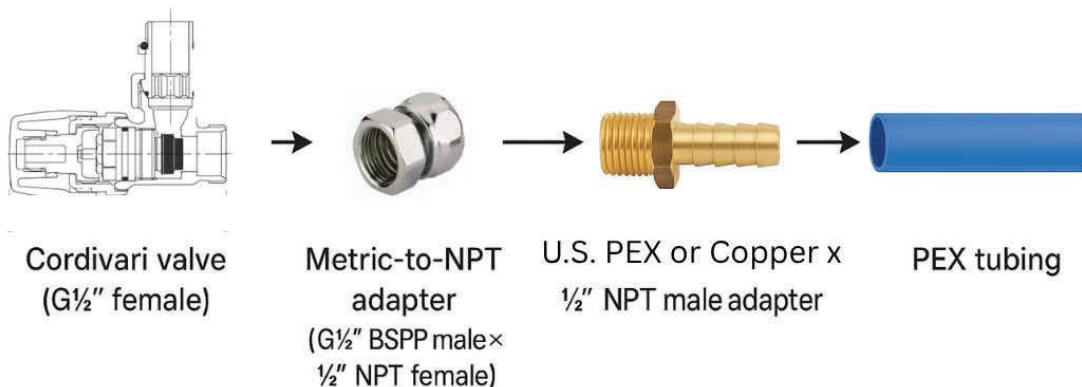
All 1/2"→15 mm transitions are behind the escutcheon—no visible NPT adapters.



Connecting Cordivari Valves to U.S. 1/2" Copper or PEX Systems

Cordivari Valve Connection – Using 1/2" NPT Adapters

- 1 Prepare valve** - Verify compression nut & olive (M16) are in place.
- 2 Attach NPT adapter** - Thread the 1/2" NPT female × M16 male adapter to the valve outlet (hand-tight, then snug with wrench).
- 3 Seal threads** - Apply PTFE tape or thread sealant to NPT threads only (do not apply to the metric compression).
- 4 Connect U.S. fitting** - Attach 1/2" NPT male × 1/2" copper sweat or 1/2" NPT male × 1/2" PEX adapter (U.S.-sourced).
- 5 Install Pipe Cover Kit** - If provided, slide steel tube sleeve and escutcheon over the line before final tightening.
- 6 Pressure test** - Align, tighten to spec, and pressure test per local plumbing code.



U.S. items not provided by Cordivari:

- 1/2" NPT male × 1/2" copper sweat or 1/2" PEX adapter
- 1/2" copper or PEX pipe

Notes: Use approved sealant. Avoid cross-threading. Do not modify the valve body.
Refer to Cordivari Catalog pages 336–339 for diagrams.