

Extending the Length of Your Flow Probe

The FP101 probe handle can be expanded from 3' to 6' by loosening the locking nut on the handle, pulling out the top piece and retightening the nut. The FP201 is a three section rod expandable from 5' to 15'.

If you want to remotely read the computer, purchase a standard ¼" stereo phono jack extension cable from Radio Shack or your local electronics supplier. Pull the computer and computer holder off the handle. Insert one end of the extension cable into the handle and the other into the computer holder. The display should not be extended more than 50' away from the flow probe.

If you need to make sewer flow measurements from the street level or measure stream flow from bridges or high banks using your FP101, you can make an extension handle by using standard schedule 40 PVC pipe and fittings. Extending the FP201 Flow probe is not recommended.

- Cut a 6" length of 1 ¼" PVC pipe.
- Cement a 1 ¼" - 1" pipe reducer to the 6" piece.
- Cement a 1" pipe of the length required to the reducer.
- Remove the computer and holder from the flow probe.
- Insert a stereo extension cable into the top of the handle.
- Run the extension cable through the pipe.
- Slip the 1 ¼" end over the probe handle end.
- Push on firmly and tightly duct tape the pipe onto the handle.

Considerations:

- Do not allow the ¼" phono jack at the end of the flow probe handle to be submerged below the surface of the water. If the connector should get wet, unplug the extension cable and allow the probe to dry out thoroughly.
- PVC pipe is flexible and will bend when the flow probe is lowered into moving water. If the probe is lowered straight down, the propeller will begin to point upward as the extension bends. This will significantly decrease the accuracy of the flow measurement. If necessary, lower the flow probe into the water at an angle such that the propeller remains parallel to the water flow.
- Use care when lowering the flow probe into the water. Fast moving current can put pull on the pole with a considerable force and can make it very difficult to hold on to.
- If a PVC extension bends too much to make accurate and reliable measurements, other materials such as metal pipe can be used. Other materials will likely be much heavier though and the extension will be even more difficult to hold on to.
- To avoid electrical shock, keep the flow probe away from any electrical wires. While PVC pipe does not conduct electricity, the metal flow probe handle does, as does the extension cable inside.