(A) INSPECTION ON DELIVERY
- When you first get the valve, check it for possible damage in shipment, conformance to specifications, opening direction, shortages, etc.
- Carefully unload all valves - do not drop valve - or lift valve using gearing, bypass or other appendage as a hook.
- Valve should be opened and then closed to make sure it works properly. Also check opening direction against the order instruction.
- Any problems should be reported immediately to the Trucker and noted on bill of lading, and signed by the driver on your copy.

(B) STORAGE
- Valves should be stored in a partially open position.
- When possible, keep valves out of the weather.
- In cold climates the inside of the valve must be kept drained of any water to prevent freezing.
- When stored outside, valve stem should be in a vertical position.
- Whenever possible, valves should be covered with a water-proof covering.
- Protect all parts of the valve at all times.
- Protect rubber seat of resilient wedge valves from ozone and hydrocarbons (solvents, paints and oils, etc.).

(C) INSPECTION BEFORE INSTALLATION
- Check to see the valve end-joints are clean.
- The valve is not damaged.
- Open and close valve - make sure it works properly.
- Keep valve closed when placing in trench.
- Inspect casting for damage.
(Repair Finish Kit 280087 is available for use on both resilient wedge and double-disc gate valves.)

(D) INSTALLATION
- Handle valve carefully.
- Prepare pipe ends in accordance with pipe manufacturers’ instructions.
- Install valve as/per appropriate instructions for the specified joint (flanged, mechanical joint, slip-on, etc.)
- Water main should be properly supported to avoid line stress on valve.
- In buried applications, make sure that the valve box does not transmit traffic loads or other stress to the valve.
- Do not use valves to force a pipeline into position.
- Do not deflect any valve/pipe joint.

(E) TESTING
- Do not backfill valves before hydrostatic system test. Leave the valves exposed while the pipeline is being pressurized. Check to see that all valve joints and pressure containing bolting, including bonnet bolts, are tight.
- AWWA C-500 states that double-disc gate valves have an allowable leakage rate. This allowable leakage must be taken into consideration when hydrostatically testing the system. (This does not apply to resilient wedge valves.)
- Valves can be tested (but not operated) at two times the rated pressure of the valve.
- After testing, steps should be taken to relieve any trapped pressure in body of valves.

GENERAL NOTES
These reference materials are available and should be helpful in the installation and testing of Gate Valve products.
- AWWA C-500 (Gate Valves – 3” thru 48”)
- AWWA C-509 (Resilient Seated Gate Valves 3” thru 12” Nominal Pipe Size)
- AWWA C-600 Installation of Ductile Iron Water Mains and Main Appurtenances.
- All installation, operation and maintenance instructions issued by the manufacturer of the pipe and the valves.
- Valve user guide as published by MSS.
- AWWA Recommendation for Installation, Operation and Maintenance of Gate Valves.
- NFPA-24 – Outside Pipeline Protection Equipment U/L.
- AWWA C-515 Reduced Wall Gate Valves.
These industry practices have been listed to help you make a safe and acceptable installation of a gate valve.