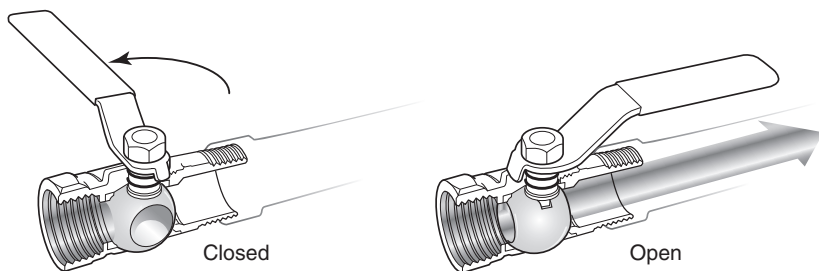


## Brass Shut-Off Valves

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These forged brass fittings make easy work of turning water on and off. They can be attached directly to an outdoor faucet and left for the entire season. They also make wonderful inline shut-off valves to let you control sprinklers without having to run back to the hose bib every time.

While you can connect a ball valve directly to your faucet, turn the faucet on full and then use the ball valve for control from then on, make sure the ball valve is in the full ON position or in the OFF position. At some interim positions the valve will be noisier than an ordinary gate valve. To prevent the noise vibration from being carried through copper plumbing into your house, the ball valve should be used only with a section of hose between it and the house faucet.

If these valves are used in areas where the winter months bring temperatures below freezing, the valves should be left open at a 45° angle to prevent water from being trapped behind the ball. Ball valves left totally open or closed will trap small amounts of water that will freeze and expand, and inevitably crack the valve. As a further precaution, it is recommended that you remove valves from the outdoor faucets and store in a heated garage or in the house, since an unheated garage or shed does not offer frost protection.

**Note:** When the shut-off valve is new, the lever will be stiff. To prevent leakage, be sure the lever is in the full OFF position (then give it one more tug for good measure). Over time and with use, the lever will be easier to maneuver.