

BUILD YOUR OWN *Rain Barrel*

IN 6 EASY STEPS!



INSTRUCTIONS

Turn over for materials and tools list.

Step #1

Drill a 7/8 inch hole several inches up from the bottom of a *food-grade* barrel. Make sure the size of the hole will accommodate the size of your water faucet.

Step #2

Squeeze adhesive (marine glue or water-resistant silicone caulking) around the hole rim.

Step #3

Place a flat, galvanized washer over the threaded end of a brass water faucet. Screw the faucet into the hole.

Step #4

Decide which side of the barrel will have the overflow valve, then rotate the barrel a quarter-turn. Drill a hole near the top of the barrel, matching the size of the hole with the size of the overflow valve.

Step #5

Squeeze adhesive around the hole rim. Screw the overflow valve into the hole, inserting the side of the valve with the narrower threading (the side with wider threading is for connecting a hose).

Step #6

If the barrel does not have a hole on top, cut one. Use a plastic grate or pond/pool skimmer basket to cover the hole. This helps keep leaves and other debris out of the barrel. To keep insects out, consider covering the grate or basket with fine mesh screen or nylon stocking.

See the Rain Barrel Installation sheet for instructions.

MATERIALS

- Barrel (Food-Grade)
- Adhesive:
Marine Glue or Silicone Caulking
- 1/2 inch Brass Water Faucet
- Teflon Tape (optional for use with faucet)
- 7/8 inch Flat, Galvanized Washer
- 3/4 inch PVC Adapter Overflow Valve
- Plastic Grate or Skimmer Basket
- Mesh Screen or Nylon Stocking (optional)

Note: These materials and tools may or may not work depending on several factors including barrel size, style and wall thickness.

TOOLS

- Drill
- Saw (hole or jig)



Lisa Meucci - 55 gal

BARREL SUPPLIERS

55-gallon, food-grade barrels are available locally. Prices vary, but expect to pay \$10-20 unless you get it for FREE. Most common colors are blue, green, brown and white. White barrels should be painted to prevent potential algae growth inside the barrel. The safest barrels are ones made from #1 (PETE), #2 (HDPE), #4 (LDPE) or #5 (PP) plastics.

- **Whatcom Farmers Co-op**
3500 Meridian St. - Bellingham – 734-4010
1720 LaBounty Rd. - Ferndale – 380-0578
- **Hardware Sales**
2034 James St. - Bellingham – 734-6140
- **Trans-Ocean Products**
350 W. Orchard Dr. - Bellingham – 671-6886
- **Z Recyclers**
6129 Guide Meridian Rd. - Lynden – 398-2161

The City of Bellingham does not recommend or endorse any of these local suppliers. Check online or with your local nursery, processor or recycler for additional options.



Nick Hartrich

Joyce Jimerson - 55 gal



www.cob.org/services/environment/conservation