

# HOW TO BUILD A RAIN BARREL

## Materials You'll Need

- 55 gallon plastic barrel
- Brass faucet (3/4 inch male threaded)
- Washer (1 inch)
- O-ring (3/4 inch)
- Stainless steel elbow (3/4 inch)
- (2) 1 1/2 inch PVC Sch. 40 adapters (1 male, 1 female)
- Aluminum screen
- Lubricant
- Thread Lock
- Cinderblocks or bricks
- Elbow that fits your downspout (flexible or aluminum)

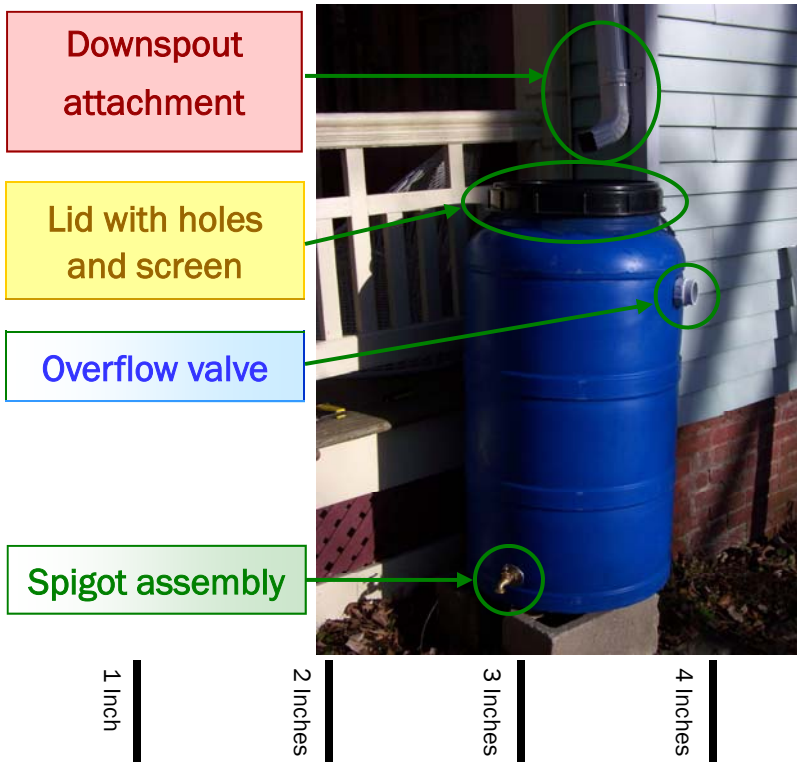


## Tools You'll Need

- 1 inch, 2 inch, and 2 1/2 inch hole saw
- Drill
- Large pliers
- Scissors
- Flashlight or headlamp



## Construct a Rain Barrel Following Four Easy Steps In Under an Hour!



## Maintenance

- To winterize: empty your barrel and stand upside down or store indoors.
- If leaking around spigot, lubricate the o-ring and tighten the stainless steel elbow with pliers.
- Check barrel and clear vegetation and debris.
- Inspect the screen for tears and rips.

For more information, go to:

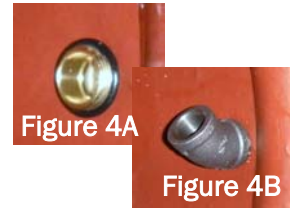
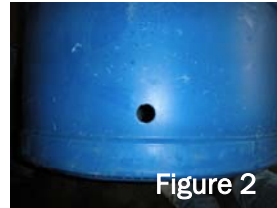
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# HOW TO BUILD A RAIN BARREL (CONTINUED)

## Spigot Assembly

1. Lay the barrel on its side.
2. With the 1 inch hole saw, drill a hole 4 inches (using scale on front page) above the bottom of the barrel (see figures 1 and 2). Clean all debris from the hole and drill.
3. Attach washer to male threaded spigot, apply thread lock to the threads of the spigot, then thread through the barrel (see figure 3).
4. Lubricate and add the o-ring to the spigot threads inside the barrel while using a flashlight/headlamp (see figure 4A), then fasten with stainless steel elbow and tighten with pliers while holding spigot firmly on the outside (see figure 4B).



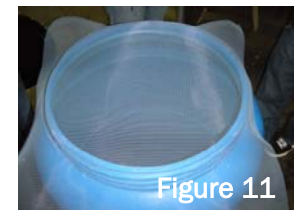
## Overflow Valve

1. Position the overflow valve on the barrel a 1/4 clockwise turn from the spigot.
2. Using a 2 1/2 inch hole saw, drill a hole near the top of the barrel (see figures 5 and 6). Clean all debris from the hole and drill.
3. Place male adapter through the barrel from the inside. Lubricate the threads.
4. Thread on female adapter to male adapter (see figure 7). This does not need to be a water tight seal.
5. Cut a 6 inch square piece of screen with scissors and attach to the male adapter with glue or a zip-tie. Trim excess screen as needed (see figure 8).



## Lid with Holes and Screen

1. First mark about 16 evenly spaced holes on the lid with a marker.
2. Using a 2 inch hole saw, drill through marked holes in lid (see figures 9 and 10).
3. Cut aluminum screen in a square with 22 inch sides (figure 11).
4. Cover the opening of the barrel with the screen and drape over the threads (see figure 11).
5. Secure lid by making sure the threads lock in the screen (see figure 12).
6. Trim screen around lid with scissors.



## Downspout Attachment

1. Elevate barrel with cinderblocks/bricks.
2. Cut downspout to a height just above the lid of your barrel when elevated. Attach elbow to downspout (see figures 13 and 14).
3. Redirect water flow towards the top of the barrel.



# RAIN BARREL CUSTOM OPTIONS

## Where does your overflow go?

Install a hose on your barrel to direct your overflow to your garden or lawn (figure 1).

Materials you'll need:

1. 1.5 inch slip by barb fitting
2. Backwash hose
3. Hose clamp



## Make your barrel aesthetically pleasing!

Make your barrel easy on the eyes:

- Paint your barrel (figure 2).
- Plant flowers and vegetation around your barrel (figure 3).
- (figure 3).
- Place large, smooth rocks on the top of your barrel, which also reduces splashing (figure 4).



## To harvest more water, add another barrel!

Lead a PVC pipe from the overflow valve of your first barrel to a hole in the added barrel (figure 5).

Materials you'll need:

1. 1.5 inch PVC pipe
2. PVC glue



## Want more water pressure?

Easy tips for increasing water pressure:

- Install a motor pump (figure 6).
- Install an air compressor (figure 7).

