

Make Your Own Rain Barrel

Materials needed to build a rain barrel include a drill, 4-inch drill hole, 1.5-inch drill hole, 1.5-inch diameter PVC pipe, a 3-inch to 4-inch PVC adapter, flexible gutter attachment piece, and 3/4 inch ball valve or spigot.

Basic Steps (*follow YouTube video for complete instructions*)

Step 1: Drill a 4-inch diameter hole in the top of the barrel for the gutter attachment.

Step 2: Drill a 1.5-inch diameter hole on the side of the barrel 4 inches from the top for the overflow pipe.

Step 3: Drill a 1.5-inch diameter hole 2.5 inches from the base of the barrel for the valve/spigot.

Step 4: Place the PVC adapter in the hole on the top of the barrel.

Step 5: Place the small PVC pipe in the 1.5-inch diameter for overflow when the barrel gets too full. (Tip: to maximize the use of the water, attach a hose to this pipe to divert the water to a beneficial spot, like a flower garden or to water your trees.)

Step 6: Attach valve/spigot to the lower hole.

Step 7: Attach one end of the flexible gutter attachment to your gutter downspout. Position the other end above or inside the PVC adapter in the top of the barrel. Your rain barrel is ready to use!

Tip: After making a rain barrel, consider using bricks or pavers to build a small platform for it to sit on. This will allow family members to fill a watering can or attach a hose.