

~~~RAINBARREL FACTS~~~

There's a lot of water to catch!

For every inch of rain that falls on a square foot of your roof, you can receive just over half a gallon of water (0.6 gallons of water). For example, if you have a shed that is 10' x 10', and you can collect the rainwater from all 100 square feet of roof, you could collect 60 gallons in one 1 inch rain.

How much rainfall is needed to fill a typical 55-gallon rain barrel?

The typical home has a roof area of 1,200 sq. ft. and four downspouts, each collecting from an area of 300 sq. ft. A rainfall of only 0.3 inches will fill the rain barrel.

If I place a 55-gallon rain barrel at the bottom of each of 4 downspouts of my 1200 sq. ft. roof, how many times will they fill up?

From May 1 to September 30 each barrel will fill up about 15 times.

Catch more from one downspout

Are you eager to collect as much water as possible? Try linking the overflow hose from the rain barrel directly under the downspout with



another rain barrel to get twice the volume.

Won't the pressure be too low?

You may think the water pressure from your rain barrel will be too low to seep through a soaker hose or power an oscillating sprinkler. But, according to Charlene, in Raytown, Missouri, you *can* use a soaker hose with your rain barrel, and she finds the low water pressure ideal for her sprinkler.



Don't like the color?

Rain barrels may be painted any way you wish... a wine barrel.. a fish tank.. an elephant? A good base paint might be Krylon's new "Fusion" spray paint, which has been specially formulated to bond well with plastic.

IMPORTANT: Do not use rain barrels for drinking, cooking or bathing. If moss killer has been used on the roof, let a few rain events bypass the barrel before collecting water.

Remember to raise your barrels off the ground by placing them on cement or wooden blocks to ease access to the faucet.

Manage heavy rains: It is essential to consider impact of heavy rains on your drainage system. An overflow rain barrel has the potential to erode your home's foundation. In all cases your rain barrel should have an overflow spigot near the top on the side. Management ideas include:

- ◆ Connect a hose to the overflow spigot and direct this away from your Foundation, a minimum of 2 feet for a crawlspace, and 6 feet for basements.
- ◆ Disconnect the rain barrel from the downspout and return the system to its original configuration.
- ◆ Leave the outlet faucet open and set a splash block under it. Now the rain barrel is an extension of the downspout drainage system. Remember to close the faucet when you desire to fill the rain barrel.
- ◆ Whatever your solution, design the overflow system to encourage infiltration of the water into the ground.

Rain barrels should be drained and removed for the winter months to

prevent ice damage. It is recommended that you remove the existing downspout and elbow intact and store for reinstallation in the late fall.

Lansing, Michigan, has an annual rainfall of approximately 31 inches.

Highest annual rainfall in the world? Mt Waialeale, Hawaii, has 460 inches of rain per year! Now that is a lot of barrels!



Rainbarrels - Price List

Barb Barton
1500 Indiana Ave.
Lansing, MI 48906
(517) 372-5058

PRE-MADE

Single Barrel with overflow side faucet..... \$100

Single Barrel with 1 ½" overflow side hose.....\$100
plus 75 cents per foot of hose

Two Barrel Special! Order two barrels for \$175 plus cost of hose

KITS

Rainbarrel kits include barrel, basket, fiberglass screen, boiler drain, side faucet or 1 ½" overflow pvc insert and hose (hose is 75 cents/foot). Instruction sheet included.

Single Barrel with overflow side faucet..... \$60

Single Barrel with 1 ½" overflow side hose.....\$60
plus 75 cents per foot of hose

BARRELS\$20

ABOUT THE BARRELS

These barrels are recycled and have contained either organic soy sauce or apple cider vinegar. I have barrels in Lake Michigan Blue, Lake Superior Blue (brighter blue than Lake Michigan Blue), and Michigan Winter White. You should know that the apple cider vinegar often leaves a residue stain that is hard to remove from inside of a barrel, so some of the Michigan Winter White barrels may slightly resemble snow in the springtime. They are still very functional. The stock I have reflects what I am able to get from my barrel guy, so I will do my best to get you the color you want but at times I may be out of a certain colors.

Some times I get barrels that have some writing on the top in magic marker. If you aren't too worried about marks, I am happy to knock \$5 off the price.

Please complete attached order form and allow 3 days for construction. Usually they can be built sooner, so let me know if you need them quickly. Call me to make arrangements to pick up your very own rainbarrel. I will deliver for additional charge.

Barb Barton (734) 576-8427 for all things rain- barrels and rainlamps

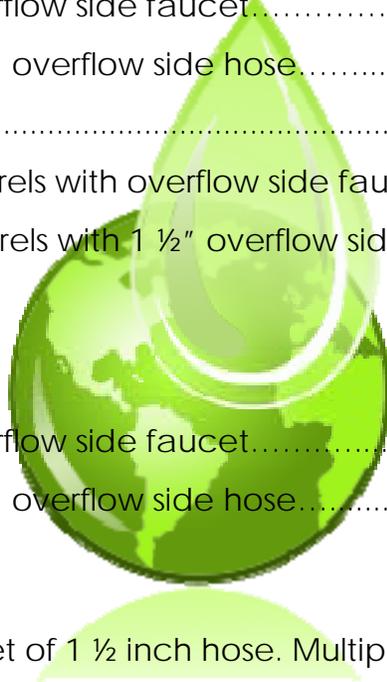
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- TWO BARREL SPECIAL\$175
 - Two Single Barrels with overflow side faucet
 - Two Single Barrels with 1 ½" overflow side hose
 - One of each



KITS

- Single Barrel with overflow side faucet..... \$60
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HOSE

- I would like _____feet of 1 ½ inch hose. Multiply by 75¢ per foot \$_____

TOTAL \$_____

FAUCET PLACEMENT - please turn this sheet over and circle

Your Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

I will accept cash on the barrel.
Or you can write a check, made payable to Barb Barton.

CIRCLE
THE SIDE WHERE YOU WANT YOUR OVERFLOW
DRAIN
(LEFT OR RIGHT)



RIGHT SIDE OF MAIN
FAUCHET

LEFT SIDE OF MAIN
FAUCHET

RAINBARREL INSTRUCTIONS

Parts List

- ◆ Barrel
- ◆ 3/4" boiler drain
- ◆ 3/4" faucet OR
- ◆ 1 1/2" PVC insert and 3/4" sprinkler hose
- ◆ Strainer basket
- ◆ Fiberglass screen
- ◆ Adhesive/sealant

Tools Required

- ◆ Saber or Jigsaw
- ◆ Drill
- ◆ 1 3/4" circular saw bit
- ◆ 1" boring bit
- ◆ Utility knife
- ◆ Tape measure



1. Trace the outside of the strainer basket. If basket has a "lip", then measure width of lip and cut the hole that much smaller. Drill 1" hole then use saber saw to cut basket opening.



2. Drill a 1" hole near the bottom. Place some adhesive/sealant around the threads of the boiler drain and screw in. Be sure to have the opening to the side to leave plenty of room for hose.

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3. Drill hole for overflow near the top, on the side you prefer. For regular faucet, use a 1" drill bit. For the PVC insert, use the 1³/₄ hole saw. Screw in fixture. Attach sprinkler hose to PVC, or regular garden hose to faucet. Overflow water should be drained away from the foundation of your home. If you are attaching two barrels together, attach PVC inserts to both barrels and join with hose.



4. Wrap fiberglass screen around strainer basket, then press basket into barrel. The screen is important to keep mosquitoes from breeding in your barrel. Place your barrel on top of two level concrete blocks and you are ready to collect rain!

Use a downspout extension and attach it to your gutter, running it into your basket. Keep your basket cleaned out and free of debris. There are many ways to hook up your rainbarrel, just use your imagination or search the web for ideas.

Questions? Feel free to call Barb at (734) 576-8427.

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