



Note: To view an instructional video, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eFM-J5OGR7c> or search for “DIY Rain Barrel Kit” by aquabarrel on YouTube.

Tool List

- Power drill
- Level
- Tape measure
- Exterior grade shims
- Marker
- Camera
- Calculator

Material List (Rain Barrel Kit)

- A. Downspout diverter (round or rectangular)
- B. Fill hose
- C. Hose seal
- D. 1-1/4" hole saw
- E. 1-1/2" hole saw
- F. 2" hole saw
- G. Spigot (upper drain)
- H. Stainless steel screws (x2)
- I. Threaded drain assembly (bottom drain)
- J. Threaded drain seal (x2)
- K. Winter cap (round or rectangular)



Installation Steps

1. Confirm location of installation with participant. If participant seeks advice on location, recommend location where it will be most convenient for the participant to use and drain regularly. Take “before” photo of the location.
2. (If barrel is to be installed on a base of cinderblocks.) Place concrete blocks at ground level at the installation location. If installing rain barrel on surface of dirt, it may be necessary to compact and/or level the ground before leveling the base. Level base with shims, if necessary.
3. Using 1-1/4” hole saw, drill two holes in barrel for the spigot and threaded drain. One should be approx. 2-3” from bottom of the barrel (for complete drainage); the other should be at approx. 1/3 of the height of the barrel (for filling up a bucket or watering can). The locations of the drains can be customized at participant’s request. Insert rubber seals. Screw spigot into upper seal and threaded drain assembly into lower seal (as shown below).



4. Place the barrel onto the base, with the drains facing direction that is most easily accessible for the participant.
5. Using 2” hole saw, drill a hole into the downspout slightly above the top rim of the rain barrel. For rectangular downspouts, always drill hole on the 3” side (for 2” x 3” or 3” x 4” downspouts).
6. Using 1-1/2” hole saw, drill a hole into the side of the rain barrel, near the top. This hole should be drilled on the side of the barrel nearest to the downspout. Insert hose seal.
7. Insert collection end of downspout diverter into downspout, fasten using stainless steel screws. Insert the other end into the hose seal on the rain barrel (as shown below).



8. Double check to make sure all connections are secure. Provide winter cap to participant or leave on top of rain barrel. Make sure to leave correct version of winter cap (round or rectangular). Clean up debris (plastic shavings from barrel). Take “after” photo of the installation.

Measure Roof Drainage Area

1. For every rain barrel that is successfully installed, measure the roof area that is draining to the rain barrel.
2. Measurements can be taken from ground level, and rounded to the nearest foot.
3. If more than one section of the roof drains to the downspout, be sure to measure both sections and use the sum for the total drainage area.

Note Accessibility

1. Installations that are openly accessible should be noted as such on invoice to PHS.
2. An “accessible installation” is defined as one that has unrestricted access and does not require gated entry. (ex. front yard, front-side downspout on duplex)

Guidelines for “No Show” Occurrences

1. If rain barrel installation cannot be completed due to circumstances beyond the contractor’s control, a \$25 “no show fee” may be invoiced to PHS.
2. The no show fee should be billed only if the contractor has incurred travel time to the installation address prior to determining installation cannot be completed.
3. No show fees may be billed to PHS for the following reasons:
 - a. Participant not home and installation requires access to be granted
 - b. Not enough space to fit rain barrel
 - c. Missing or damaged downspout preventing installation
 - d. Downspout is made of material that cannot be drilled
 - e. Short notice cancellation (travel time still incurred)
 - f. Unsafe conditions for installation (provide photo documentation)
 - g. Incorrect address or contact information on schedule provided by PHS

Invoicing

1. Each completed rain barrel installation is billable for \$75.
2. Each “no show” fee is billable for \$25.
3. For every installation, invoice must include:
 - a. Participant’s full name
 - b. Address
 - c. Date of installation
 - d. Roof drainage area
 - e. Accessible vs. non-accessible installation
 - f. Brief explanation for any no-show fees (if applicable)