



Instructions for Rain Barrel Assembly

Thank you for purchasing your rain barrel from Quad City Rain Barrels. We are sure you will enjoy the satisfaction of using chlorine free rainwater on your plants and lawn while helping to do your part in

Recycling natures precious resource – water.

The cost of water or the electricity to pump it from private wells will only continue to increase. Your rain barrel will outlast many of those increases.

We believe that you made the best choice by buying our product. We offer a very inexpensive, no frills rain barrel. You can also easily change the color of your rain barrel by purchasing a spray paint that is made for plastics.

The following instructions will guide you through choosing a location for your barrel and installing your diverter.

Keep in mind that plastic barrels are like plastic bags. When they are empty they relax back to a form similar to when they were first made. Flat spots on the body, dimples, and dents may be evident when empty. However, when you fill them up they will restore themselves to a round condition and will look more uniform in their shape.

If you purchased or want to purchase multiple barrels you can connect the two together from the one barrel's linking hose fitting to the other barrel's linking hose fitting. This fitting is near the bottom of the barrel and the top fitting is your overflow fitting. When the barrel under the downspout collects the water it will share it with the linked barrel. Both barrels fill and empty at the same time. There is no limit to how many you can connect together.

Placing your rain barrel

- Choose a downspout on your house or garage that is close to the plants and garden you water most.
- Choose a downspout where your rain barrel's overflow will soak into your own yard and not your neighbor's property.
- *Build a base for your barrel.* Gravity will help move the water, or if you want to fill up a watering can from the spigot (so the can fits underneath the spigot). Remember that water seeks it's own level. In other words if the end of your hose is higher than the spigot then the water will not flow out. Concrete blocks will make your barrel a little sturdier also. Bricks and cinderblocks work well. *Remember – a gallon of water weights over 8 pounds, so a full rain barrel will be heavy.*

Quad City Rain Barrels also offers platforms made from reclaimed wood.

- Set the rain barrel on the completed base or platform.

Connecting your downspout to your rain barrel using The Garden Watersaver.™
The diverter kit contains complete instructions for easy installation

Connecting your downspouts to your rain barrel using the Downspout Off-set Divert.

The diverter kit contains complete instructions for easy installation.

Connecting your downspout to your rain barrel using the provided Flex-Spout Tools: Rain barrel, Hacksaw, Flex-Spout, straight edge, marker

- The Flex-A-Spout extends up to 18 inches long.
- Extend and shape the Flex-A-Spout to line up with your downspout and insert the other end onto the top of the barrel.
- Mark the downspout using any straight edge. Below we've chosen a ruler and Sharpie® marker. Keep the ruler as level as possible. Note that the mark is 3" – 4" below the top edge of the Flex-A-Spout. Once mark is complete, set barrel aside.



- Most downspouts have two straps holding them to the house. Leave both straps attached for now. Next let's cut the downspout. For this task we have chosen a hacksaw. If you do not own a hacksaw, one may be purchased at your local hardware, garden or building supply store. An extra pair of hands is helpful in holding the downspout during cutting. **Caution! The cut edges can be very sharp.** Now remove the lower strap and downspout. Keep the downspout piece that you are removing – you can use it in the winter if you put your rain barrel in storage. Either store or recycle the lower portion of the downspout.



- Place your rain barrel back on top of the base.
- Install the Flex-A-Spout onto the end of the downspout and shape it so that the water from your downspout is directed into the rain barrel through the plastic screen vent on top.
- Attach a hose to the overflow hold on the topside of the barrel.

Make sure that the overflow is directed into your own yard.




Connecting your downspout to your rain barrel using your current system Tools: Rain barrel, Hacksaw, current parts

- Follow the instructions for the Flex-A-Spout substituting your gutter elbow instead of the Flex-A-Spout.

Quad City Rain Barrels
Custom Rain Barrels
Recycling natures precious resource-Water

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Disclaimer

With proper installation, maintenance and use, your rain barrel should function properly. Quad City Rain Barrels assumes no liability for the installation, maintenance, or use of your rain barrel. We are not responsible for any rain barrel malfunction, property damage or injury associated with your rain barrel accessories, or contents.