

4-Port Deluxe Rain Barrel

Harvesting rainwater and storing it for later use makes sense for your plants, your budget and the environment. Naturally free of tap water chemicals, rainwater is the best source of water for plants and soil life. The 4-Port Deluxe Rain Barrel holds 75 gallons of rainwater and the four threaded spigots let you distribute water easily to different parts of your garden. You can even use one of the spigots to link to a second Rain Barrel to double your water storage.

Parts Included

4-Port Deluxe Rain Barrel
Internal Overflow Tube and Outlet
Expandable Overflow Outlet Hose
Debris Screen
Outlet Hose with on/off thumb valve
(3) End Caps

The plastic Overflow Tube inside the barrel should arrive already attached to the spigot on the lower inside wall of the barrel. If the Overflow Tube was dislodged during shipping, remove it from the barrel and immerse an end in hot water for approximately 30 seconds. Then re-attach it to the spigot inside. Hang the top end of the Overflow Tube on the wire hook attached at the top center of the Barrel.

Note: When your Rain Barrel is new, water may leak from the Ports while the gaskets swell into place and go through a conditioning period. Leaking should stop within a few days.

Assembly

- Step 1.** Place the Rain Barrel on level ground. Attach the end of the **Outlet Hose** to a threaded port at the base of the barrel and tighten. The other end of the Outlet Hose fits neatly into the clip on the top of the barrel.
- Step 2.** Place End Caps over the unused ports.
- Step 3.** Attach the **Expandable Overflow Outlet Hose** to the large (1¼") outlet port. Direct the overflow away from building foundations.
- Step 4.** Place the Debris Screen on top of the barrel.

Controlling Overflow

The 4-Port Deluxe Rain Barrel has a 75-gallon capacity. This may seem like a lot of water, but when you consider that a roof area of 1000 square feet sheds 625 gallons in a 1-inch rainfall, you can just imagine how quickly the barrel can fill up. This is why the barrel is equipped with an internal Overflow Tube.

When the rainwater reaches the top of the barrel, the water will flow into the tube and exit

through the wide, opaque green Outlet Hose. Direct the hose away from building foundations to avoid flooding. Here are some other suggestions on how to direct rainwater overflow:

- Use PVC or flexible pipe to extend the overflow outlet and divert the excess water to an existing body of water, cistern, drain, rain garden or garden bed.
- Place pieces of slate or a patch of pebbles at the base of the Overflow Outlet Tube to prevent erosion.
- Attach two or more Rain Barrels together with a Rain Barrel Linking Kit to capture overflow.

Winter Storage

If you live in a cold climate, drain the Barrel and hoses completely before freezing temperatures occur. Place the Barrel upside down or cover it to avoid freezing and cracking during the winter.

For more information on using rain barrels, see the article "Rain Barrel How-To" and use our handy "Rainfall Harvest Calculator" at www.gardeners.com.

4-Port Deluxe Rain Barrel Linking Kit

The 4-Port Deluxe Rain Barrel Linking Kit allows you to connect two or more 4-Port Deluxe Rain Barrels using the 48" Flexible Linking Hose with brass fittings. The Hose attaches to the threaded ports of the two Barrels and directs water overflow from the first Barrel into the second. When attached to a single Barrel, the Hose can be used to redirect water away from the overflow outlet.

Assembly

- Step 1.** Place one fully assembled 4-Port Deluxe Rain Barrel on a level surface where it will collect water—beneath a downspout or roof of a house, garage, shed or other outbuilding.
- Step 2.** Position the second barrel no more than 45 inches away from the first Barrel. Attach the Flexible Linking Hose to a threaded port on each barrel. Important: the barrels must be level with one another. If one barrel is lower than the other, the lower barrel will overflow before the higher one is full.
- Step 3.** Position the expandable Overflow Outlet Tubes of both barrels to direct their overflow away from building foundations. See Controlling Overflow above.

