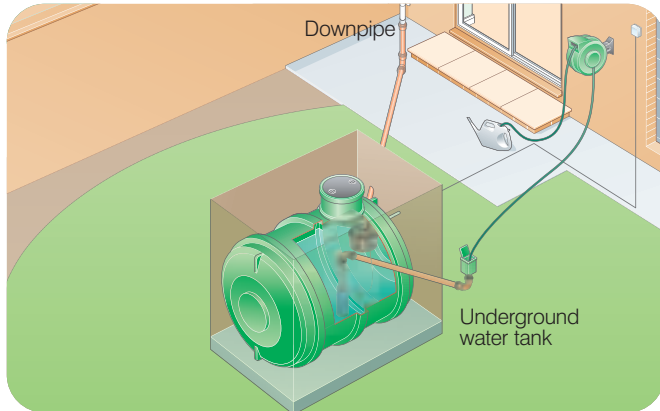


Underground storage tanks

There is growing interest in water tanks below the ground, which can have large capacity while remaining unobtrusive. If you've got enough space, a large storage tank will significantly increase the amount of rainwater you can catch and use. With a pump attachment inside the tank, you've got instant access to your own reservoir whenever you - and your garden - need it. Ask in store for more details about installing an underground storage tank.



Water saving tips

When to water

Make sure you only water your garden when it needs it - and do it early in the morning or in the evening. If you water in the heat of the day, a lot of moisture will be lost to evaporation.

Watering trees

Try to water trees and shrubs along the 'drip line' (roughly below the ends of the branches) rather than near the trunk. This helps get water straight to the roots.

Saving water

If every household in the U.K. used a standard 200 litre water butt, we would save 30,000 million litres of water each summer.

Grey water

Much of the waste water you produce at home can safely be used on the garden. This kind of domestic waste water is called grey water and it is fine for plants as long as it is not contaminated by an excess of detergents, soaps or cooking residues. Grey water should be used as soon as it is cool - do not store it in a water butt.

For independent help and advice regarding water efficiency and general saving tips visit, www.waterwise.org.uk and www.diy.com/savewater

Ideal for the job

Water butt stand

A water butt stand will raise the water butt above the ground high enough to place a watering can under the tap.



Diverter kit

The rainwater downpipe is connected to the water butt using a diverter kit. If you want to install two or more water butts, you will also need a connector kit.



Watering can

The simplest way to transfer water from a butt to the garden is with a watering can.



Water butt treatment

Keep the rainwater in your water butt usable with this specially formulated treatment.



how to... install a water butt

B&Q you can do it

Learn more about installing a water butt with the bestselling **you can do it – the complete B&Q step-by-step book of home improvement.**



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A summary of this leaflet can be made available in Braille, large print and audio cassette. Please ask for details or email us at diversity@b-and-q.co.uk

Every effort has been made to ensure that the instructions given in this leaflet are accurate and will enable you to do the job safely and successfully. Please follow instructions carefully and seek expert advice in the event of difficulty.

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All information correct at time of going to print.

HOWT0095

tools

- power drill fitted with a hole saw
- hacksaw
- tape measure

materials

- water butt and stand
- rain diverter kit



eco water

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waterwise

You can do a favour to your plants, the environment and even your wallet by collecting, storing and recycling rainwater. The best way to collect rainwater is in a water butt connected to a downpipe.

Rainwater

Not only is rainwater free, but it is better for plants than tap water as it contains more nutrients. What's more, some mains water is hard which is not suitable for many plants and can leave a limescale deposit. Rainwater will not leave limescale deposits or increase the alkalinity of the soil.

Which water butt is right for your garden?

The amount of water that your garden needs will depend on the size of the garden as well as the type of soil and plants that you have. Water butts are now available in a variety of sizes and designs so you can choose one with the capacity and style to suit you. Don't forget that you can fit more than one butt to increase water storage capacity.

Slim water butt

Space saving butts are ideal for smaller gardens or tight corners. Their compact, square design means they can fit flush against a wall.



Standard water butt

A traditional barrel shaped water butt, standard butts can be made from largely recycled material, the sturdy design includes a lid and twist-flow tap.



Decorative water butts

Modern water butts come in a wide variety of shapes and sizes. Not just ideal for collecting rainwater, but an attractive garden feature in their own right.

Fitting a water butt



1 Choose a suitable and convenient downpipe for the water butt and place the stand beneath it. The butt needs to be placed on level ground to avoid leaning or sinking and raised high enough off the ground for a watering can to fit under the tap.



3 Attach the rain diverter fitting to the downpipe; the cut section of downpipe fits onto the bottom of the diverter.



5 Attach the water butt connector to the water butt by pushing through the drilled hole and screwing fittings in to place.



2 Place the water butt on the stand and mark its height on the downpipe. Cut the downpipe 3cm below this point with a hacksaw.



4 Measure 8cm down from the top of the water butt and drill a hole through which the water butt connector is fitted.



6 Attach the water butt connector to the rainwater diverter with the supplied fittings. Place the lid on the butt and lock it into place. A lid also prevents mosquitoes laying eggs in the water.

YOU CAN DO IT

To increase the amount of water that you save, you can install two or more water butts, by using connector kits.

To see a step-by-step video of how to install a water butt, visit www.diy.com/savewater

Making the most of a water butt

Choosing a water butt stand

The water butt needs to rest on a stand in order to be raised off the ground high enough to place a watering can under the tap. Choose a stand in the same style and size as your butt to provide a solid, level base that will look good.

How to stop the butt overflowing

An overflow wastes water and the water could damage a wall. If your water butt is overflowing, first check that the diverter is not blocked with leaves and debris. If it is clear, make sure that the level of the diverter is not too high. If it is, you may need to raise the level of the butt.

How to stop the tap leaking

Make sure the tap is turned fully to the off position. Check the nut is threaded correctly and tight. If it is still leaking, use a water proof sealant or plumbers tape to seal the leak.

Where to use water from a butt

Rainwater stored in a water butt is ideal for all garden plants. It is not suitable for paddling pools or water toys.

Water butt pump

Ideal for pumping water directly from your water butt onto plants in the garden using a hose pipe, sprinkler hose, soaker hose or irrigation system.



Water butt kit

The easy way to water your garden directly from your water butt; ideal for flower beds and vegetable gardens. It's a pre-assembled system that connects to your water butt.



SAFETY FIRST

The water butt lid is an important safety feature. A child safe lid will help prevent children and animals from opening the water butt. Make sure the lid is securely attached at all times to avoid accidents.