



Guidance on Constructing An Official H2O Hero Rain Barrel



Parts List

NOTE: SKU # refer to Home Depot Parts, unless otherwise noted

Barrel

1 55 or 35 gallon, plastic

Inflow

1 18" flex-elbow downspout (SKU 663428)
1 2' x 2' fiberglass window screening (SKU 236055, or equivalent)
4 6" (or longer) cable ties (SKU 295648)

Overflow

1 2" PVC trap adapter hub x slip joint (SKU 189863)
1 2" PVC pipe 2' length (SKU 193852)
1 2" PVC 90 degree elbow hub x hub (SKU 189472)
1 2" PVC 90 degree street elbow (SKU 828327)

Drain

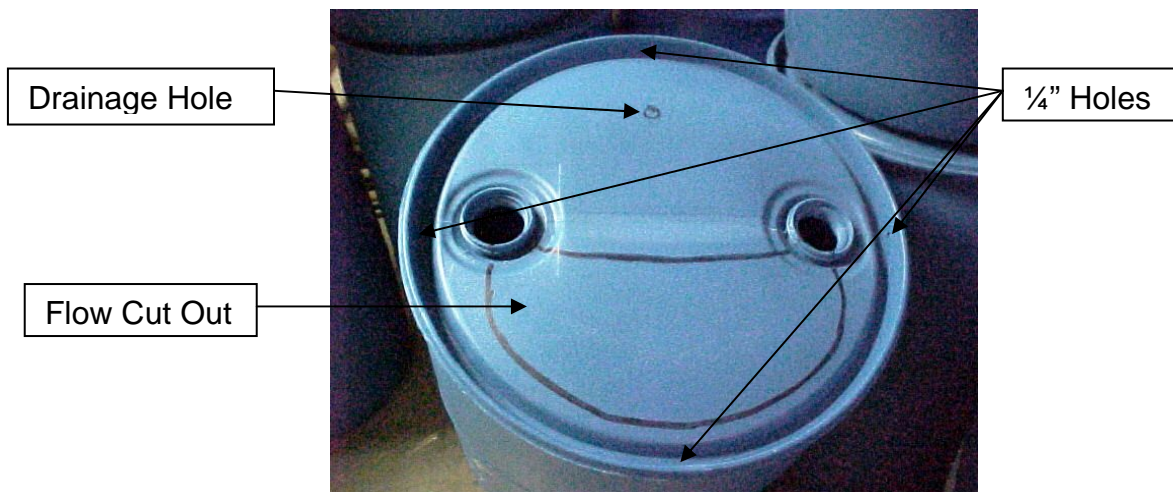
1 1/2" Male Boiler Drain Valve: Mueller Global Brass MPT Quarter-Turn (SKU 243496),
or Homewerks Worldwide 1/2 in. Brass MPT (SKU 434-534)

Tools Needed

Jig or reciprocating saw Electric drill crescent wrench 1/4" and 3/4" drill bits 2.5" hole drill

Barrel Preparation

Top Opening – A hole cut in the top of the barrel will receive the flow from the downspout. This cut-out will encompass just less than half of the cover area and can include the two bung openings. Remove, if necessary, and discard the two bungs and cut out the area, as shown in the photo. Leaving most of the bung openings and about one inch along the cover edge intact will help to maintain the integrity of the cover. Drill a 3/4" hole in the other half of the cover for drainage, as shown in photo. Finally, drill four 1/4" holes equally spaced around the outside edge of the cover to attach the screening (some barrels already have such holes near each bung, so only the remaining two may be necessary).



Cover Removal – Near the top of the barrel, locate the area where the side of the barrel curves inwards (see picture below). Drill a 3/4" starter hole for the saw blade and cut off the top of the barrel by

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following this narrower band around the circumference of the barrel. (**NOTE:** Make sure the saw is cutting into the barrel and not the cover itself.)



Cover Placement and Finishing– When the top of the barrel has been removed, it is turned upside down and fits over the top edge of the cut barrel.

Side Holes – Drill a 2.5” diameter hole on the side of the barrel, approximately 3” (on center) from the newly cut top edge, for the overflow pipe. $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ way around the barrel from the overflow hole, drill a $\frac{3}{4}$ ” hole on the side of the barrel about 3” from the bottom, for the spigot.

Hardware Installation

Cover – Place the screening loosely over the *original topside* of the cover, center, and attach using cable ties through the $\frac{1}{4}$ ” holes in the cover’s edge. When turned over and placed on the barrel, the top will further hold the screening in place.

Spigot – Carefully screw the spigot into the $\frac{3}{4}$ ” hole, trying to keep it straight and insert all the way using a crescent wrench. After tightening, leave the spigot facing sideways to ease attachment of a hose.

Overflow – (**NOTE:** The nylon gasket normally found with this adapter should be discarded.) Insert the male end of the pipe adapter into the 2.5” hole and secure with the female fitting. Connect the street elbow to the outside of the adapter, followed by the 2’ pvc pipe and the other elbow. (**NOTE:** The overflow pipe should be directed to the same location as the original downspout discharge, or other location sufficiently away from the building foundation.)

Placement / Downspout Modification – When full of water, **the rain barrel will weigh over 400 pounds**. If the rain barrel is placed upon cinder blocks or other base to ease access to and use of the spigot, its placement must be firm and stable. The downspout should be cut about 6” above the top of the barrel. The downspout extender is then attached to the downspout and directed to the opening in the barrel cover.



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