



## WATER BUTTS



The installation of a water butt on your property would help to minimise surface water flooding whenever the village experienced heavy rain and storms. At the moment, our drainage system cannot cope when surface water comes down off Ben Bhraggie causing the drains to overflow. By installing a water butt, water taken off your roof would be gathered into this which would then trickle into the drainage system over a period of time, rather in one deluge! You can obviously also use the water for your garden. They are easy to fit and are relatively cheap to buy, however, we at the flood group maybe able to help with the cost if enough people show interest. Please contact us to express your interest.

Here are some links:

[https://www.wickes.co.uk/Wickes-Water-Butt-Kit---210L/p/222085?gad\\_source=1&qclid=Cj0KCQjw-GxBhC1ARIsADGgDjtA18cBJTYztpMyvMpbavAoXMPnxsIFbt\\_G0Uh6d2NCvVLBEpZH3KkaAgddEALw\\_wcB&qclsrc=aw.ds](https://www.wickes.co.uk/Wickes-Water-Butt-Kit---210L/p/222085?gad_source=1&qclid=Cj0KCQjw-GxBhC1ARIsADGgDjtA18cBJTYztpMyvMpbavAoXMPnxsIFbt_G0Uh6d2NCvVLBEpZH3KkaAgddEALw_wcB&qclsrc=aw.ds)

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/Strata-Products-Ltd-GN325-including/dp/B001DYWUNC/ref=sr\\_1\\_8?dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.XvMdW-8DH9rOUS0XGX0rR5yEviejW7kvL43rYhO5YTd\\_YY5JX3Z5uIY9xJVGP0UBY37pmIZZAQSXDJB4xLfNi4okGRr5DHhIUqsh-6SRsmcDvXs50mw82\\_2lwksDe9evvKQ4MzHAGZ8GqEDw\\_MGr4Lyihduu9rndB45m\\_qdnsECWefzQNIEOIriVFiGSN2N3IEOeSXJy-I5WRLZ6vLICQRwS7k\\_mh-TT8mOEVdgdinrL9Kb25CArCAvYnlw2vxYeCns56CWHK-z7gMn6HQg\\_-b-mkMAztdjzk-ujbtsjic.BqkkHKfgaxUGGuUWmMCRf\\_53JUja7Yt-ehO0Ovfuln8&dib\\_tag=se&keywords=210%2Blitre%2Bwater%2Bbutts%2Bwith%2Bstand%2Bband%2Btap&qid=1715003660&sr=8-8&th=1](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Strata-Products-Ltd-GN325-including/dp/B001DYWUNC/ref=sr_1_8?dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.XvMdW-8DH9rOUS0XGX0rR5yEviejW7kvL43rYhO5YTd_YY5JX3Z5uIY9xJVGP0UBY37pmIZZAQSXDJB4xLfNi4okGRr5DHhIUqsh-6SRsmcDvXs50mw82_2lwksDe9evvKQ4MzHAGZ8GqEDw_MGr4Lyihduu9rndB45m_qdnsECWefzQNIEOIriVFiGSN2N3IEOeSXJy-I5WRLZ6vLICQRwS7k_mh-TT8mOEVdgdinrL9Kb25CArCAvYnlw2vxYeCns56CWHK-z7gMn6HQg_-b-mkMAztdjzk-ujbtsjic.BqkkHKfgaxUGGuUWmMCRf_53JUja7Yt-ehO0Ovfuln8&dib_tag=se&keywords=210%2Blitre%2Bwater%2Bbutts%2Bwith%2Bstand%2Bband%2Btap&qid=1715003660&sr=8-8&th=1)

However, if you would like to make your own, go to the next page to see how to do this!!



## How to Turn a Plastic Barrel into a Water Butt

Plastic barrels are often available for free and they make great water butts. But be careful to source barrels that have not had anything toxic in them.

### Materials

Marker tape or marker pen to act as a guide for removing top.  
Tarpaulin  
Buckets  
Sandpaper  
Silicone sealant and gun

### Tools

Saws  
Drills  
25mm hole saw and arbor  
70mm hole for down pipe if needed  
Adjustable grips

### Method



Empty residue from the barrel into buckets and spread out tarpaulin to catch the bits of plastic, rinsing if necessary. Next drill a hole for the down pipe to fit into the barrel lid – make sure to locate the hole so that your pipe will go in without any angle problems.

Now if you have a barrel without a separate lid, you will need to cut off the top. You need to

decide on your cutting line so that when it is upside down, it will sit nicely on top of the barrel. You'll get an idea of where we made the cut on the photo. We found marker pen worked better than marker tape.

Use sandpaper to de-burr the edges of the cut surfaces, making sure to catch them on the tarpaulin.

Wash out the barrel again before starting to fit the tap.



### Fitting the tap

We chose a spot about 10-15 cm from base, as the plastic gets thicker towards the base. Starting the hole can be a bit tricky, but once you have a slight line cut out, it gets a lot easier. Once hole drilled, locate the tap. NB the washer goes on the outside. The taps are screwed in, using adjustable grips.



### Tips

Choose a strong stand (eg plastic bottle crate) at least 30cm tall so you have room to get a watering can underneath it, and place it on a flat surface if possible, as otherwise the stand tends to push into the ground so the barrel develops a list.

Don't over tighten the tap. (Spare taps are handy.)

If you want to add a hose, dip the end of the hose (3cms) into hot water to soften.