



Types of Rain Barrels:

Rain barrels come in various shapes and sizes to fit and meet the needs of most homeowners. The most common materials used in the construction of rain barrels are plastic and wood. Wood rain barrels are considered by many to be most natural looking but with today's technology in plastics there are a number of rain barrels on the market today that look and feel like wood but carry the benefits of plastics making them more durable and longer lasting.

Plastic – This is the most common material currently used for rain barrels. Plastic rain barrels include both hard and soft sided units made from recycled and virgin materials including PE and PVC. The advantages of plastics are that they are extremely durable, available in many sizes, able to be molded and colored to meet the end users needs, can be shaped to fit into certain locations (such as flat backed rain barrels), and generally are much more affordable than wood rain barrels. Plastic rain barrels as well as wood rain barrels are highly recommended to be drained during the winter months to avoid rupturing.

Wood- Wood rain barrels are not as versatile as plastic rain barrels but offer a more authentic look and feel. These rain barrels typically weigh more, are almost always recycled from a prior service such as wine or oil storage, and will deteriorate over time. As with the plastic rain barrels, wood rain barrels also should be drained during the winter months.

Size – Rain barrels are available in many different sizes. The most common size of rain barrels is in the 50-55 gallon range but rain barrels are available at up to 300 gallons currently and some custom rain barrels are available at even larger storage amounts