

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is there a screen in the lid? The screen is to keep mosquitoes and other pests out while letting the water flow freely into the barrel.

Do fittings need be removed for winter? Fittings do not need to be removed for winter. Plastic fittings are used because brass and steel do not interface well with plastic barrels. These items expand and contract at a different rate, which is the major cause of other manufacturer's barrels leaking in a short period of time. The only thing you need to do to prepare for the winter season is to drain all the water out of them, remove the linking fitting cap, and open the spigot.

Are the barrels new? These are used, food grade barrels. They will have some scuff marks and scratches from shipping and handling. Each barrel is inspected, cleaned, and modified. There are no significant scuffs or scratches which would harm the structural integrity of the barrel and lead to any leakage. The spigot is installed on the nicer looking face.

How are the lids held onto the barrel? In some models, the lids screw on and hold the cap in place. In others, the lids and screen are held on with a galvanized lock ring.

Why are there so many holes in the lids? Multiple holes are installed in the cap for best collection of water.

Are the barrels painted? These barrels are not painted. UpCycle Products offers an inexpensive and no frills rain barrel. If you want to change or enhance the color of your rain barrel, there are two products that are recommended. The first is Ace Hardware brand spray paint, and the second is Krylon brand spray paint. Both do an excellent job on plastic and will not peel for years to come.

What kind of spigots and fittings are used? Acetyl plastic spigots for the faucet and poly fittings for the linking and overflow hoses are used.

Is there assembly required? All fittings are shipped inside the barrel and include instructions to install them into the predrilled and threaded holes.

What is the purpose of the linking fitting? The linking fitting allows the user to connect multiple barrels together for the collection of more rainwater. The overflow fitting allows the homeowner to direct the additional water away from their home.