

Make your own mini water butt



SEVERN
TRENT
WATER

Rain water is fantastic for plants so when there is plenty, you can collect and store it. In drier times, you can use the water you've saved. Cleaning water to make it good enough to drink uses a lot of energy, so by using rainwater, we're also helping to save energy. Follow these instructions to make your own water butt.

You will need:

- A large milk bottle (6 pints ideally) and its lid
- Strong garden twine or cable ties
- Outdoor paint
- Paint brushes
- Scissors
- Decorations and glue (optional)

What to do:

1. Clean and dry the milk bottle and remove the label.
2. Carefully cut the base from the bottle (close to the bottom). You may need adult help to do this.
3. Add your special touch by decorating the bottle to suit the garden area it is going to be placed in. It could be pretty colours or it could involve water saving messages. (Remember your bottle will be fixed with the lid pointing downwards!)
4. Once dry, use the twine or cable ties to attach the bottle to a fence with the lid securely fastened and pointing downwards.

When it rains, your mini water butt will collect the water and you can unscrew the lid to release it into a watering can when you need to use it.



Points for discussion:

Why can plants use rainwater but we can't drink it?

Why is saving energy important?