

This is Google's cache of <https://www.thestar.com.my/lifestyle/living/2021/06/09/here-are-ways-to-collect-and-use-rainwater-at-home-and-in-the-garden>. It is a snapshot of the page as it appeared on 9 Jun 2021 14:26:30 GMT. The [current page](#) could have changed in the meantime. [Learn more.](#)

[Full version](#) [Text-only version](#) [View source](#)

Tip: To quickly find your search term on this page, press **Ctrl+F** or **⌘-F** (Mac) and use the find bar.

How to collect and use rainwater at home and in the garden



By AGENCY

LIVING

Wednesday, 09 Jun 2021 12:00 PM MYT



your dog's inner model with these



Coronavirus has ushered in a new era of...



> to remove

ERROR fo
Invalid do



Home



For You



Bookmark



Audio



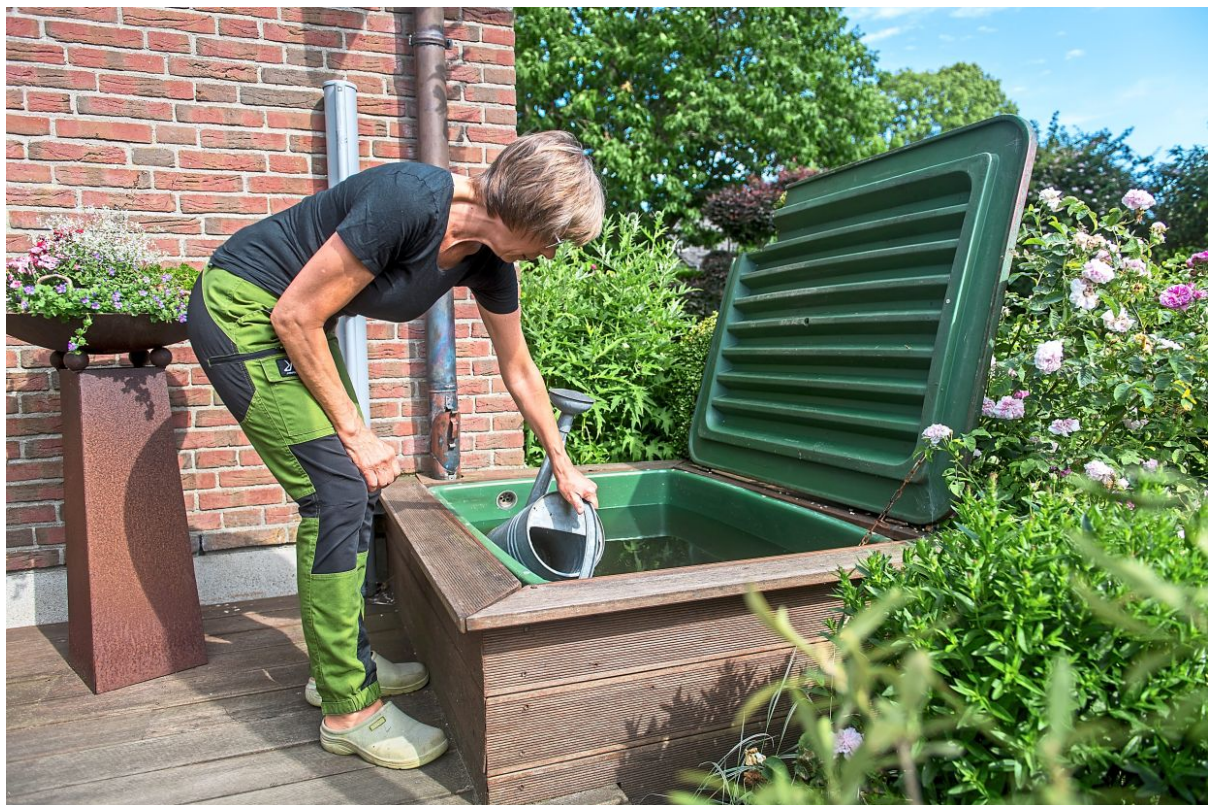
Search

Rainwater, on the other hand, is not only better for plants but is cheaper, too. Sadly though, it doesn't necessarily fall exactly where it's needed.

For those who want to collect rainwater, the classic way to do so is a container at home, says Michael Henze who works for a gardening association in Germany. Such containers can also be positioned to collect water from the roof rain gutters.

If your rain barrel has an outlet tap, so much the better as you can attach a hose for watering the garden. Experts note that if you get a pump system, that will allow you to reach the furthest parts of your garden.

If you don't fancy the standard green plastic barrel from the garden centre, then there are other more original approaches, with the possibility of using wine barrels or even amphorae.



If you collect rainwater, you can water your garden with it - but it is important to have a lid for the water reservoir. Photo: Benjamin Nolte/dpa

Whatever you use, the experts say you should put a lid on your rain barrel to prevent animals from falling in or to avoid it gathering lots of leaves. "Mosquito larvae also like to settle in rain barrels," Henze says.

your dog's inner model with these



Coronavirus has ushered in a new era of...



strainer, a
barrel is fu
into the

ERROR fo
Invalid do



Home



For You



Bookmark



Audio



Search

A barrel might not be enough, though, if you have a larger garden – here, a large tank may be needed instead. These can be installed underground, somewhere inconspicuous such as under the driveway or in the garden.

You can get these tanks in a range of sizes, starting with a 1,000l-1,500l capacity, says Henze. His advice is to assume you'll need a tank of about 1,500l to water an area of 100sq m.



Rainwater can also be used at home, for example for washing clothes or flushing the toilet. Photo: Christin Klose/dpa

There are other factors to consider when choosing your tank, however, says Andreas Braun, a specialist in efficiency at home. Alongside the size of the area to be watered, he lists "local rainfall, the size of your roof area, the number of people living in the house and duration of irrigation or planned use of the water in the house."

He says it's better to go for a slightly larger tank to get you safely through the hotter seasons, though he notes that it depends on what you're planning to do with the rainwater you collect.

"Do I only need it now and then as a reserve during times of no rain, or do I want to use it to water the lawn all year round?"

your dog's inner model with these



Coronavirus has ushered in a new era of...



Rainwater
ray's Diet

ERROR fo
Invalid do



Home



For You



Bookmark



Audio



Search

The water tank is the foundation for a rainwater utilisation system. If you're using rainwater indoors, it will need to be cleaned.

"The rain from the surface of the roof is passed through a filter via the drainpipes and it then flows into the tank,"

says Braun. The extraction hose floats so it takes water from the cleanest layers of the tank.

Those who want to use rainwater in their homes need a separate rainwater pipe. "Water that comes into contact with the human body must meet certain regulatory standards," says Braun.

Although rainwater can be cleaned and filtered well, it won't reach the same quality level as drinking water – it is still rainwater, so you shouldn't use it for showering, bathing or cooking.

You will need a second pipe system to make sure your drinking water doesn't mix with your rainwater, and ideally the pipes and taps for the drinking water should have a colour that identifies them so no one gets confused.

Sounds complicated?

"Storing and using rainwater is always worthwhile," says Sperfeld. "From a purely economic point of view, it makes sense, as drinking water can be expensive – and in many regions it can only be provided at even greater expense."

And for the environment, it's best to use the resources that nature provides free of charge. – dpa

Related stories:

[Here's why your home's flat roof should be part of the garden](#)

[Tips for starting your own permaculture vegetable garden](#)

[5 questions to ask yourself before growing an indoor water garden](#)



Environmentalists have long campaigned for people to use rainwater rather than drinking water when watering the plants in the garden. Photo: Ina Fassbender/dpa

your dog's inner model with these



Coronavirus has ushered in a new era of...



ERROR fo
Invalid do



Home



For You



Bookmark



Audio



Search

Found a mistake in this article?

Report it to us.



Stories You'll Enjoy

STARPICKS

Revolutionise change

ENTERTAINMENT 2h ago

Kara Hui says she begged for money on the streets from age 3 to 13

INDIA 2h ago

Elephants in India tested for coronavirus after rare lion's death

NATION 1h ago

Covid-19: Number of cases rise above 6,000 again after two-day dip

your dog's inner model with these



Coronavirus has ushered in a new era of...



ERROR fo
Invalid do



Home



For You



Bookmark



Audio



Search

STARPLUS 05 Jun 2021

INTERACTIVE: How Malaysia's fight against Covid-19 is progressing (updated weekly)

NATION 22h ago

Neighbours shocked by elderly couple's sudden death

NATION 2h ago

Health DG: 150% increase in patient arrivals at Covid-19 Assessment Centres

SINGAPORE 59m ago

Malaysians overseas to get free two-year extensions on their passports

SABAH & SARAWAK 3h ago

Sabah Police Chief: Phillip Among to be charged

your dog's inner model with these



Coronavirus has ushered in a new era of...

ERROR fo
Invalid do

Home



For You



Bookmark



Audio



Search

NATION 5h ago

Guan Eng: I spoke about economy and Covid-19 pandemic during audience...

NATION 12h ago

Nurse cheated of RM94, 000 in Macau scam

NATION 22h ago

HK star's mystery beau remains a secret for now

[Load More](#)

Subscriptions

[The Star Digital Access](#)[SMS Services](#)[Newsstand](#)[Other Publications](#)

Advertising

[Our Rate Card](#)[Classifieds](#)[your dog's inner model with these](#)[Coronavirus has ushered in a new era of...](#)

ERROR fo
Invalid do



Home



For You



Bookmark



Audio



Search

Policies

[Privacy Statement](#)[Terms & Conditions](#)

Subscribe to our FREE newsletter!

[Subscribe](#)

Copyright © 1995- 2021 Star Media Group Berhad (10894D)
Best viewed on Chrome browsers.

your dog's inner model with these



Coronavirus has ushered in a new era of...



ERROR fo
Invalid do



Home



For You



Bookmark



Audio



Search