

Helpful Contacts

Namibia Housing Action Group
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Windhoek, Namibia
061 239398

Shack Dwellers Federation of Namibia
Etetewe Street
Windhoek, Namibia
061 239398

Building Rubble and Garden Refuse
Disposal Site
061 228919

Drums (200L):

NEO Paints
12 Bell Street
Southern Industrial
061 224666

Rainwater Collection Building Guide



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In Namibia, many people spend a lot on water. Many would also like to have gardens, but it is too expensive. Building a system to collect rainwater can help you with these problems.

This system will:

- Give you another water source
- Save you money on your water bills
- Allow you to grow a garden

AND it is easy to build!



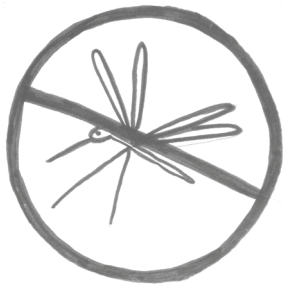
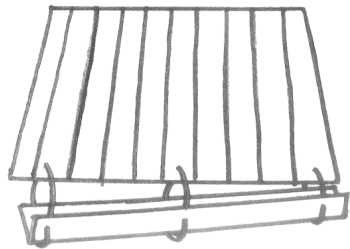
Water Uses

Collected water can be used for cooking, cleaning, washing clothes, construction, and gardening. You should not drink the water unless to take extra steps to purify the water.

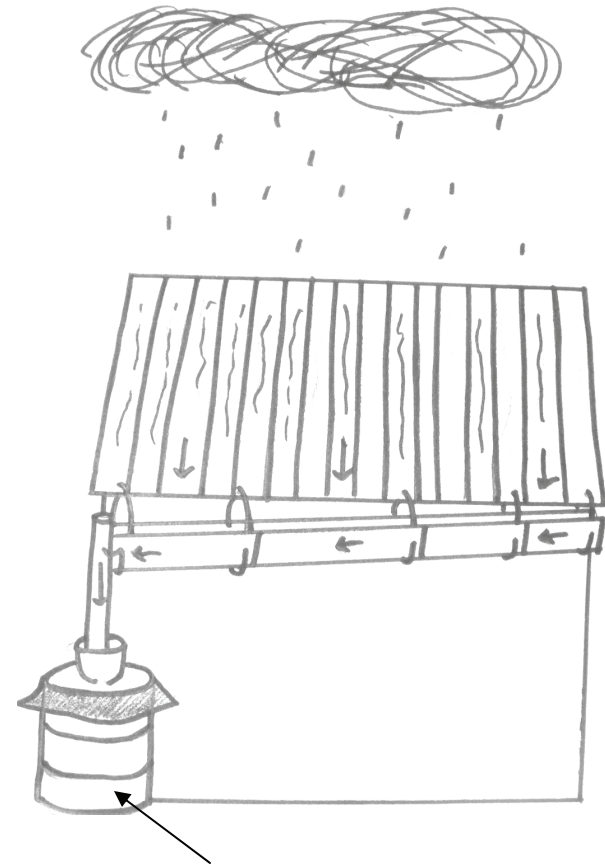


! Important Things to Remember !

- The gutter NEEDS to be at a slope in order for the water to flow from end to end.
- The storage container MUST be covered. This is to keep mosquitoes from breeding.
- There NEEDS to be mesh covering the hole leading to the container. This is also to keep mosquitoes from breeding.
- The storage container MUST have a black lining. This is to help keep the water clean and keep algae from growing.



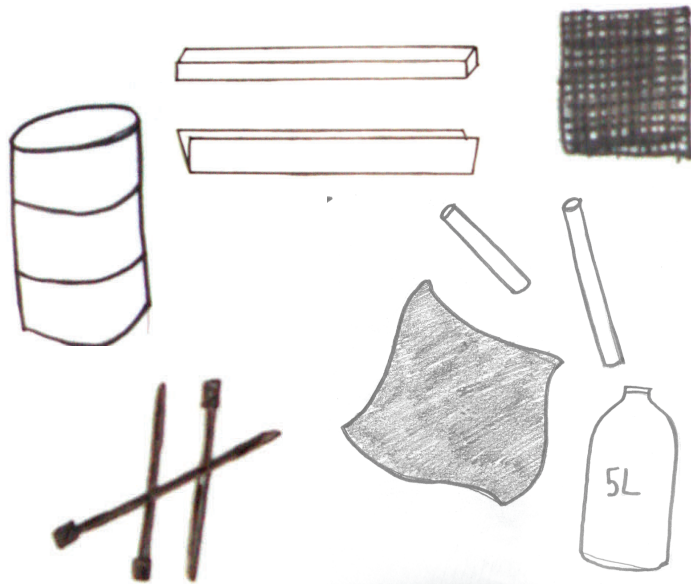
How it Works



Collected
Water

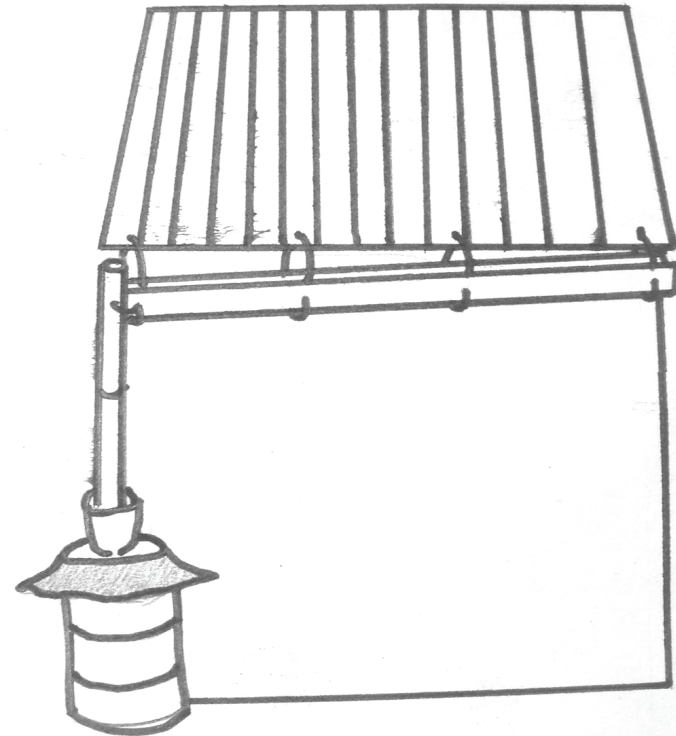
Materials

- Gutters
- Downpipe
- Cable ties or wire to hold up gutters and downpipe
- 5L jug to insert downpipe into
- Mesh to put in jug to keep out mosquitoes
- 200L drum w/ cover to hold collected water
- Black plastic sheeting with no holes big enough to cover inside of drum to keep algae from growing

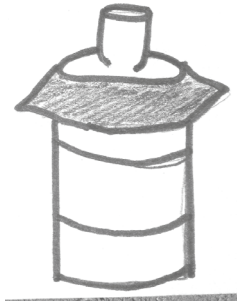


These materials can be found at most scrapyards. Cable ties and black plastic sheeting must be bought at a building store.

Put it together



Plug it



Using the jug as a funnel, put the end in the hole of the cover.

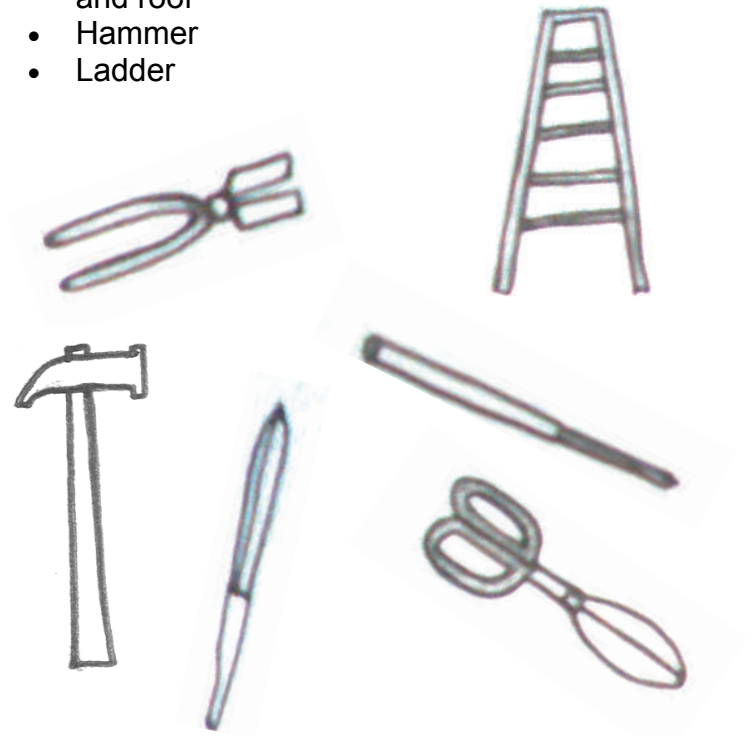
! Mesh it !



Place the mesh piece in the jug. The piece must cover the entire hole. This is to keep the mosquitoes out.

Tools

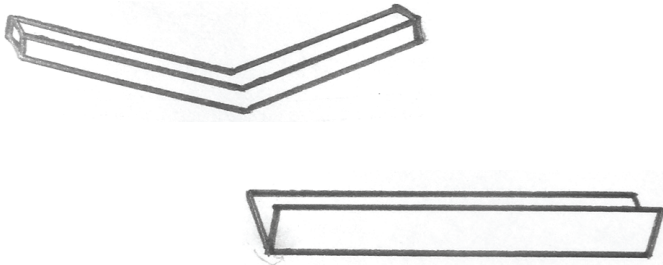
- Tinsnip to cut metal
- Pliers
- Knife
- Metal punch to make holes in the gutter and roof
- Hammer
- Ladder



These tools, along with a lorry to get materials from the scrap yard, can be borrowed from the Namibia Housing Action Group. You only need to buy fuel for the lorry.

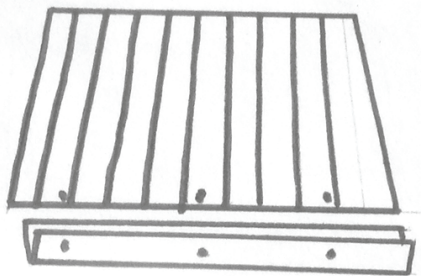
Gutters

Make it



The gutter needs to be straight, if it is not, cut out the bent parts, or bang them out if you can. If you have sheet metal, bend it in half.

Hole it



Punch holes in both the roof and the gutter. Make sure that they line up.

! Cover it !



Place the cover on the drum. This is also to keep algae from growing.

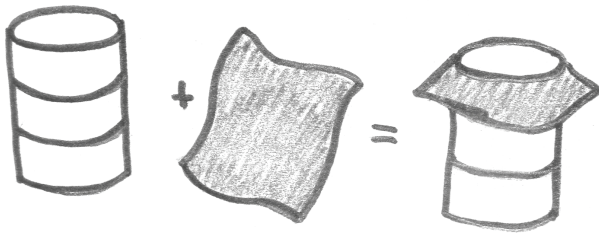
Cut it



Cut the bottom of the 5L jug off.

Storage

! Line it !



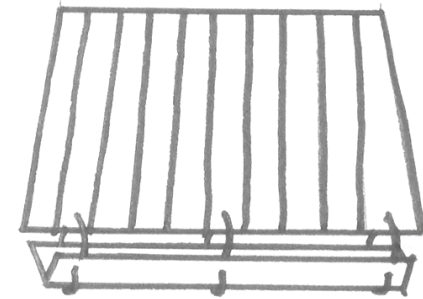
Put your black lining into the drum. Make sure that the entire inside is covered. NO HOLES. This is to keep algae from growing.

Hole it



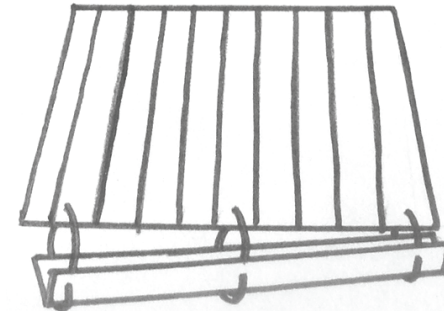
Punch a hole big enough to fit the 5L jug into the cover of the drum.

Hang it



Using your cable ties or wire, hang up the gutter. Keep the ties loose.

! Slope it !



Adjust the slope so that one end is lower than the other. You may want to test it, if the water doesn't flow from one end to the other, you need to adjust the slope again.

Down Pipe

Connect it



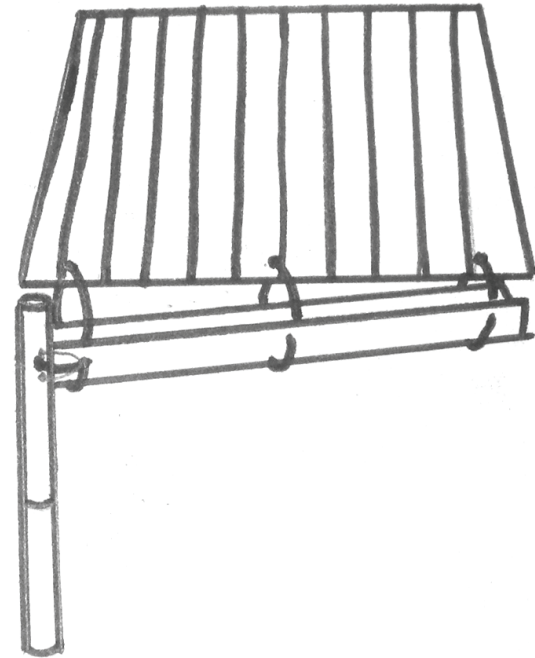
If your down pipe pieces are not long enough, you need to connect 2 or more.

Cut it



In order to connect the down pipe to the gutter, you need to cut one end of the down pipe so that it fits snug onto the gutter.

Hang it



Connect the down pipe to the gutter using your cable ties or wire.