

The rainwater harvesting jar

Sometimes the solution to a lack of safe water can be incredibly simple. Rainwater harvesting is a cheap and effective way to create a lasting supply, no matter what the season.

'Jars' are made by covering a wooden mould with mud, letting it dry and then encasing it in concrete. The mould and mud is then removed and the inside of the jar is plastered to make it waterproof. One jar can supply several households with up to 1,500 litres of filtered rainwater collected from a clean roof and gutter.

- Rainwater falls onto a clean roof and is channelled along clean guttering
- A perforated basin filters the water to stop any debris entering the jar
- The jar is made from cement and lined with plaster
- The jar sits on a brick plinth and often has a lockable box containing the tap to prevent water theft



The sky's the limit
The jar is just one type of rainwater harvesting technology. Find out about all the solutions we use at www.wateraid.org/technology.

Buy a rainwater harvesting jar
Just £60 could pay for the construction of one of these life-changing systems. Visit www.wateraid.org/shop.

Illustration by peter-mac.com



Salif Zormé, standing in front of his rainwater tank in Ené, Mali.

"I think that this tank will bring a lot of things and improve the life of my family. Firstly the water from the tank is safe, so will stop diseases caused by dirty water. My children will be more healthy and will be able to go to school. I think this water will also make my children more intelligent."



Iysha Zawde standing outside her house next to her rainwater harvesting jar, Namayumba, Uganda.

"Before I had this rainwater harvesting jar I used to collect water in metal drums but these were open and would fill with insects. People would also take the water from them leaving very little for me."



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