

How to care for your water butt

Award-winning garden designer Leon Davis shares his water butt care top tips.

The best time to clean your water butt is on a dry, calm day and don't forget to make sure you have your rubber gloves on before you start:

- 1. Drain out any water in your water butt (check if you can re-use this water), disconnect and carefully rotate your empty water butt onto its side.**
- 2. Scrub the inside and outside with a coarse brush.**
- 3. Rinse the debris and dirt away (check if you can collect and re-use this water).**
- 4. Put your water butt back in place and reconnect.**
- 5. Make sure you check your gutters aren't clogged with fallen leaves or moss.**

To prevent your water butts from getting dirty you can fit filters to the diverter on your down pipe and double check your water butt lid is well fitted to prevent debris falling into the water and for the safety of animals and children.

If you have multiple water butts, you can rotate them to keep stores fresh, too.

“The best way to maintain your water butt is to keep it covered to stop any debris falling into the water. Also, use it often, so that the flow of water running through the water butt will help keep it clean throughout the year.”

