

PREPARING YOUR BARRELL

Krylon Fusion seems to be the **most popular paint for priming or using as a base coat** for your rain barrel. You should be able to locate this at most local hardware stores. Downtown Hardware [298 S. Illinois Ave Oak Ridge, TN 37830 ph: 865-483-4339] in Oak Ridge has an ample supply in a variety of colors.

Once you have determined what color you will use for your base coat you can then begin to decorate your **painted rain barrel** with ordinary acrylic paint.

How do I prepare my rain barrel?

Begin by priming your barrel and settling on a **base color**. A single can of Krylon Fusion will cover up to 25 feet on a non-porous surface. While one can will cover a rain barrel we do recommend using two cans. The barrel will look better with a final spray. Darker colors require additional paint.

Ideal Conditions:

- Well Ventilated Area
- 50 - 85 degrees in low humidity

For Best Adhesion:

- Wipe surface down with an ammonia base cleaner.
- All our Rain Barrels have been used previously. They are generally a little "slick" with a few layers of UV protection. A generic window surface cleaner will remove this before sanding. Krylon claims that you do not have to do any preparation to the plastic but we suggest sanding the entire barrel with a 220 grit or finer sand paper before you clean it with an ammonia based solvent. Be sure to use a sand paper that does not leave scratches. This extra step is well worth your time.

How to Paint:

- Cover spigot and overflow valve with masking tape
- Shake can vigorously for 2 minutes
- Hold can 8 to 10 inches from surface

- Spray in sweeping motion keeping even distance from surface
- Begin off the surface and continue each pass off the other side
- Begin by applying a thin coat and wait 30 seconds
- Apply multiple thin coats to avoid runs and drips

Dry Time:

- Dries in 15 minutes or less
- Handle after 1 hour

Re-coat:

Before 24 hours or after 7 days

Chip Resistance:

Fully chip resistant within 7 days

Begin Design Process

Now that your barrel has been prepped you can begin the process of designing your barrel.

- You may paint, sculpt, transform and adorn the rain barrel but structural integrity of the rain recycler must not be compromised. The net opening for recycling rain shall not be altered nor obstructed.
- Park-like, eco-friendly element themes are appropriate. However, East Tennessee and/or Oak Ridge -related themes are encouraged.
- Please be reminded that the audience will be broad-based and of all ages. *We will not accept designs that are religious, political or sexual in nature. The artwork may not include the use of corporate logos.*

Sealing the Barrel

- You should cover your newly designed barrel with at least two coats of weather-resistant clear coat.
- Rain Barrels will be placed outdoors, in areas fully accessible to the public. This means that the weather and other elements of nature should be considered. Designs should be created with durability and public safety concerns in mind.