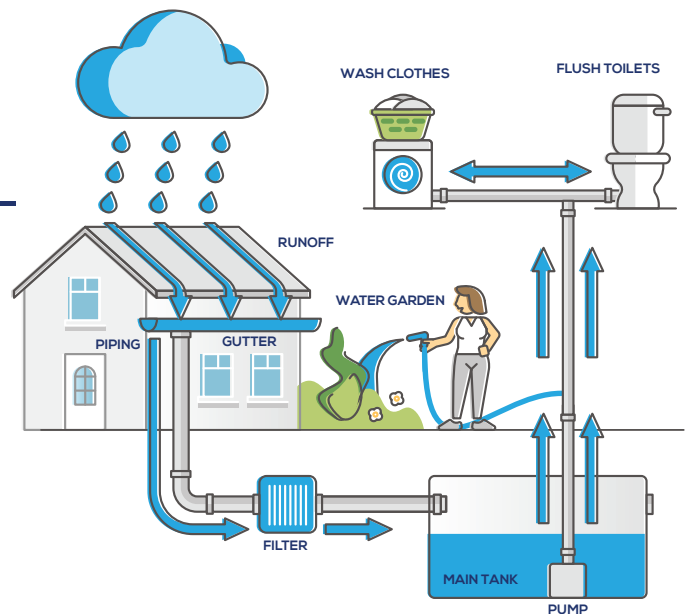


HOW TO INSTALL AN UNDERGROUND WATER TANK - STEP BY STEP

INSTALLING AN UNDERGROUND WATER STORAGE TANK IS SIMPLE ENOUGH WHEN YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TOOLS FOR THE JOB. HERE'S A BASIC INSTALLATION METHOD, INCLUDING RECOMMENDED MATERIALS AND MACHINERY...



BACKFILL MATERIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Using the correct backfill material cannot be stressed enough, as it will lengthen the life of the tank significantly, plus minimize the possibility of the tank collapsing. It is an extremely critical part of the installation that must be followed. A 1:6 ratio of river and cement mix is required to encapsulate the tank. If the geographical area is prone to high water table levels during the rainy season, this ratio may be increased. When mixed, don't add water and make a wet mix; it should be a dry mix for filling the bottom of the hole and around the tank. It is important that all material be free of sharp objects that could cause damage to the tank.

BASIC INSTALLATION METHOD:



EXCAVATE – Measure the length and width of the tank. Add at least 250mm on both ends and sides of the tank and mark those dimensions on the ground. Excavate to a depth that will provide a minimum of 200mm and a maximum of 350mm of cover over the top of the tank. Topsoil may be placed over the filling after the filling has been lightly compacted and hardened.



PREPARE THE BASE – Remove any roots and rake the bed flat. The preferred tank bedding material is the filling material as already described (see Backfill material instructions). After measuring and filling in the base layer of 250mm of filling, lightly compact and level before setting the tank.



SET THE TANK – Place the tank in the middle of the hole. Begin pushing the tank back and forth to allow the base filling to fill in the ribs along the bottom of the tank. If you are lowering the tank in the hole using a crane or excavator, level the tank before removing the straps in case further excavation is needed.

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INSTALL CONNECTIONS – Install bulkhead fittings. You need to plumb with a flexible hose directly from the bulkhead fitting, as this prevents any movement that could break the fitting and put extra stress on the tank. Underground tanks must be vented to prevent them sucking in when water is being pumped out.



ADD RISERS – Remove the lid and gasket that is supplied with the tank. A UPP riser, varying from 300mm to 900mm, may be installed on top of the tank to secure access to the tank. More risers may be added to accommodate the depth of the hole. Add the lid and gasket to the top riser installed.



BACKFILL – Begin filling in the space around the tank with the recommended filling material and compact in layers of 200–300mm. Make sure all gaps under the tank are completely filled and always compact evenly around the entire tank. Make sure to compact backfill under pipes. Carry on layering the filling until a layer of at least 200mm is lightly compacted over the tank.



FINISHING OFF – Once the tank is installed in the sand/cement powder mix, it can be finished off by adding topsoil over the tank. The vent or risers should be properly secured.

NOTE: REGULAR CHECKING OF AN UNDERGROUND TANK IS RECOMMENDED, ESPECIALLY IF YOU PLAN TO USE THE TANK FOR DRINKING OR POTABLE WATER, TO MONITOR WATER QUALITY.