

How to make your own containers for a water filter

Chose the size of available round (could be square but round is better) **NEW stackable food grade** plastic containers (buy two of the same size **with covers** - transparent is best so you can see the water levels in both top and bottom tanks but standard 5 gallon buckets work well also - white if you can get them) ... these could be as small as a few gallons or as large as 5 gallons or more ... they should have enough vertical space inside for 10" ... enough for the 8" tall filter plus a little space (the more space the better but also consider how much space in your kitchen or location) One source is ULINE.com (search "water containers") ... wait until your filters and spigots arrive to put the holes in the containers to verify size of holes to drill ... the holes should be just large enough for the fittings to fit through ... you will order filter elements (order link page 2 below) ... you chose between 2, 4 or 10 packs of filter elements and we include the stainless steel spigot (note this spigot will NOT fit standard gravity filters) ... to drill holes in plastic requires careful drilling. There are drill bits that are better for plastic but if you have standard drill bits, it is best to drill a small tap hole first as a guide hole and then expand out slowly using larger and larger bits until you reach the correct size for the filter and spigots to fit through (heating the drill bit also helps) ... set the two plastic containers with caps in place side by side ... one will be the top container and the other will be the bottom container ... in the bottom container drill a hole about 1.5" from the bottom in the side for the spigot ... the spigot comes with 2 washers one goes on the outside and one on the inside ... put the spigot through the hole and turn finger tight (if it leaks you will have to tighten more) ... drill a hole about 2" in diameter in the center of the cover of the bottom tank (this is where the filter will fit when you put the two tanks together) ... if your design uses many filter elements space them as you like and drill holes accordingly ... your bottom container is done ... the JMCC "HI" filters will hang down into the bottom container WHEREAS the older ceramic filters go vertically up in the top container (see photos below) ... now for the top tank ... drill one hole in the center of the bottom large enough for the threaded filter element tube to fit through (or multiple holes if you have more than one element in your design) ... leave the washer ON THE FILTER ELEMENT and put through the hole of the base of the top container ... put the plastic nut on the filter element and tighten ... finger tight ... NEVER twist a ceramic filter from the filter part it is delicate ... hold it firmly from the blue base plastic and tighten ... again watch to make sure this seal is not leaking ... now put all together on a solid area ... it is best if the spigot is always overhanging the counter so you do not have to move every time you want to draw water ... fill the top container and let the first batch of filtered water flow into the bottom ... new filters are dry (especially ceramics) so take time to get wet and start passing water ... it should be at a constant drip drip drip rate (the new HI filters pass much more water than the ceramic filters) ... discard the first two batches of water and you are set ... do not overfill the top container to prevent the bottom container from overflowing ... what a mess!! if you do this once you probably will not do it again ... ONE FINAL check ... when the top container empties make sure that there is always a little water left ... if not that means that water is leaking through the filter element washer and it is not tight ... in that case tighten the filter more but DO NOT TWIST on the ceramic part of the filter only twist by holding the blue plastic base of the filter ... one last thing ... with time your filter may slow down and show coloration on the outside ... this is mineral buildup on you filter and is easily removed by lightly running with a scotch brite plastic pad on the ceramic filters (NO SOAP EVER !) or use the back of a butter knife to scrape until you see the white ceramic again (you can clean the filter hundreds of times if you have heavy buildup) ... replace the filters per schedule (about 1000 gallons for standard ceramic and 3000 gallons

for the IMPERIAL filter elements) or about 2000 gallons for the HI filter elements ... then you will have your own filtered water no matter where you are (store your filter element when moving in a plastic bag and not fastened in the filter as jarring will break the filter when traveling) ... If you do not use your filter for a long time dry out the entire system before storing including the filter element (you can put on a mild heat source or in the sun for a number of days to make sure it is perfectly dry ... but also the JMCC GF and HI Filter elements come with silver in the filter to prevent mold) ... Happy Drinking !!!

Order the water filter elements here → [Make Your Own filter purchase page](#)

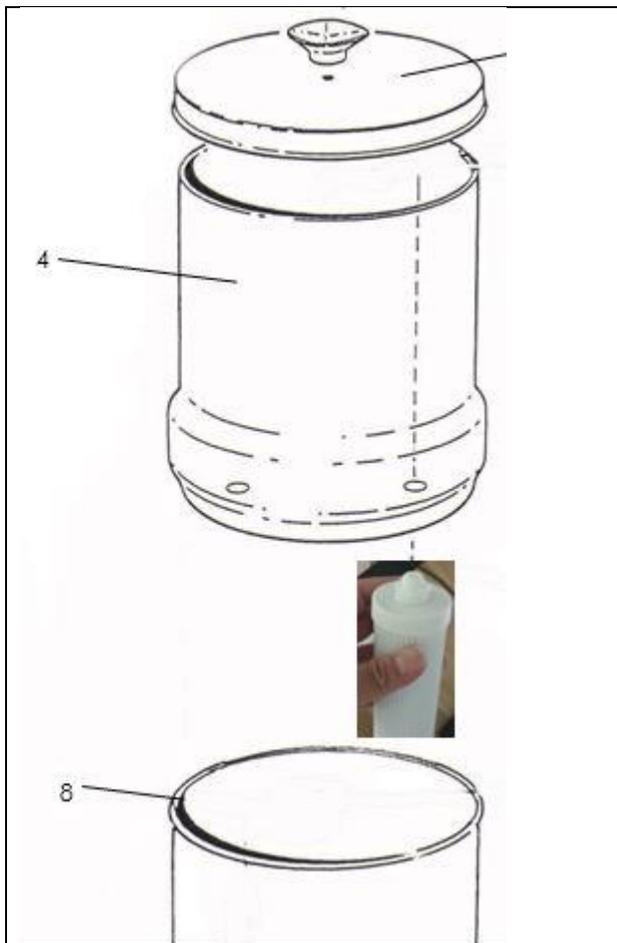
Photos of water filters made from plastic containers using JMCC GF Water Filter Elements

NOTE the photos below are of filters made with ceramic filter elements and the plastic spigots. Our latest "make your own" packages come with a 304 stainless steel spigot and HI filter elements which will hang down into the bottom container instead of upwards into the top container (see next page for diagram of the new HI filters installation).



See next page for diagram of installation of new "HI" filter elements

Installation of new “HI” filter elements that hang into the bottom container rather than vertically upwards into the top container. Some people may have our GF ceramic filters while some may use the newer technology HI filter elements as sold now. Here is an explanation for why we moved to the new HI filter elements. If you plan on traveling you may wish to use the HI filters which are not subject to damage and have twice the flow rate of even the old style Imperial ceramics. We upgraded to the HI Filter from the prior ceramic filters for many reasons including 1) we can mass produce the HI filters to meet larger markets (with ceramics we were always short on production and could never grow), 2) the HI filters are the latest in filter technology, are very durable and do not break in shipping or traveling (we had many issues with broken products in shipping with the ceramic GF filters) and 3) the HI filters have a few filtration features not achievable with ceramics (10 times smaller pore size, removes gasses that can cause smell in water, etc.). If you purchased our GF ceramics in the past they are excellent filters (I personally still use them) but we had to move ahead for these business and technology related issues.



The “HI” filter elements hang downwards into the lower container. They have a higher flow rate and so you only need one unless you are making a very large unit (calculate 2 gallons per hour per filter element). So, with the HI elements a 5 gallon filter will fill in less than 3 hours.



Photo showing the HI filter element hanging down from the bottom of the upper container



The stainless steel spigot for a lifetime of use