



Water Storage Containers

Bulk water storage will be heavy containers that take up space. Do not let this be a reason you neglect to store adequate amounts of water. Putting aside some space and budgeting a reasonable amount of money to purchase suitable containers is a small price to have peace of mind in the event your water supply is compromised.

Use this page to identify how you will store your water. We have categorized water containers into four types, as follows:

1. Drum type for large quantities up to 55 gallons of water.
2. Portable type that can store three to six gallons and have a handle to carry.
3. Personal type which is typically a one-gallon container.
4. Drinkable type which is a small 32 oz. type bottle you can carry in your BOB, GHB or EDC kits.

1 – Drum Type Containers

[Drum Water Containers](#) can hold up to 55 gallons of water. Remember that one gallon of water weighs eight pounds, so a full 55-gallon drum will weigh 440 pounds. They are difficult to move when full but a [Drum Dolly](#) can be utilized if needed. Typically a dedicated [Hose and Hand Pump](#) will be used to dispense the water.

Another option, although slightly more expensive, is a [Drum Container with Spigot](#) that can be stacked two high and provide over 100 gallons of water in a small amount of floor space.

If you have the space these drums would be ideal for storing large quantities of water, be sure to use [Water Preserver](#) to provide five years of shelf life.

2 – Portable Water Containers

Three to six gallon portable containers are very common and come in many sizes and functional designs from six gallon [Jerry Can Water Container](#) to stackable 'cube' type containers. The stackable containers are convenient and can be purchased in packages such as a [Set of Six Stackable Water Containers](#).

3 – Personal Water Containers

One-gallon bottles of water can be bought at most grocery or department stores. These provide an excellent option to store water at your work or in your car. They can also be useful at home to refill drinkable containers.

4 – Drinkable Water Containers

Drinkable water containers, such as the 32-ounce Nalgene container are very popular. For carrying purpose choose lightweight containers and limit the use of the insulated thermal containers that are considerably heavier.

Many options now exist for personal water bottles that have integrated water filters which make a great multi-purpose tool when having to source water. When researching these bottles

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consider if you can pour disinfected water from them such as this one [Grayl Geopress](#), or if they have to be held upright, like using a straw, such as this one [Epic Filter Bottle](#). Both are excellent filters; one advantage of the geopress is you easily can pour purified water from the bottle to fill a second container. An advantage of the Epic filter is you can have multiple Nalgene bottles and switch the filter/cap; remember the water in each bottle is not disinfected until it comes out the mouthpiece so be sure to label the bottles as Non-Potable!

Also consider a single-wall stainless steel water bottle as it can be used to boil water and heat water for cooking. There are several 'kits' available that include a 32-ounce single wall stainless steel bottle and a simple stove that 'nests' the bottle. The stove will serve to hold the bottle above a fire you create from natural materials so no fuel is necessary. These kits, such as this one [Nesting Water Bottle Kit](#), can include a cup that can be used for cooking also. Note that insulated thermal bottles are not recommended to boil water in.

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