Rain Chains

Today on Gardening in a Minute: rain chains.

Rain chains provide an elegant way to deal with rain runoff. They function as a downspout would, helping to divert rain off the roof.

But unlike downspouts, rain chains are quite beautiful, so they’re a great option for high-visibility areas like a front entry way.

Most are made of metal, with copper being the most common material. Some look like oversized chain from the hardware store, while others are more sculptural, resembling a series of cups connected by a chain.

You can purchase rain chains at many garden centers or online.

Typically, you can install rain chains by clipping them into an existing gutter system, after removing the old downspout.

Rain chains are widely used in Japan and often play a role in gardens that have an Asian inspiration.

For more information about rain chains and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.