

Ice Dispenser Chute Extender, Version 1.1

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As I write this, we have had 34 days this year at or above 110°. Ice in my drink is important!

Every hour or so, I must refill my water bottle with ice. The cubes sail down the chute and, ideally, go in the bottle. There is always one that hits the floor. Yes, I can raise the lip of the bottle so it is closer to the chute, but then the ice jams up. As I lower the bottle, there are always cubes that go flying.

Ice cubes on the floor aren't just annoying as I repeatedly bend over to pick them up. If I miss one, the poor soul that steps on it can go flying. There are plenty of stores of serious injuries, including broken bones and broken heads due to falls.

The solution I've successfully used for many months involves a 2 ½ inch PVC coupler.

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The coupler is a loose fit to the outside of the water bottle's mouth and the chute. The length of the coupler is enough to hold a bunch of ice cubes when they jam. I can then lift the coupler away from the chute, and none escape. A little jostling and they all go in my bottle.



Filling the water sack in my backpack is equally perilous. Ice cubes go flying everywhere.



Using the coupler means none escape.



When cubes do hang up, it tends to be at the top of the lip of my water bottle. Once in awhile, they hang up at the internal ring that prevents PVC pipe from going in too far.

Since I have a lathe and a boring bar, I cut that ring out. I could have filed it out. After a good washing, the coupler when back into service.

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