

# Curlicue Easter Basket



Base: 9" Round  
Sides: 5"  
Handle: 12"

Materials: 10 pieces @ 23" - 3/4" flat reed (spokes)  
48' - #3 round reed (twining)  
5 pieces @ 38" - 5/8" flat reed (weavers)  
4 pieces @ 38" - 1/4" flat **dyled** reed (weavers)  
1 piece @ 38" - 3/8" flat reed (weaver)  
2 pieces @ 36" - 1/2" flat oval reed (inside & outside rims)  
1 piece @ 34" - #6 round reed (rim filler)  
1 piece @ 7' - 11/64" flat reed (lasher)  
2 pieces @ 5' - 3/8" flat **dyled** reed (curlicues)  
1 - 10" span round push-in hardwood handle

Soak all of the spokes and #3 round reed for several minutes until pliable. Find the rough sides of five of the spokes and lay them out horizontally in front of you. With a ruler, mark the centers, 2" to the right of center and 2" to the left of center on the five spokes. Lay the marked spokes out in a spokelike design. Begin twining with a long length of the #3 round reed folded not quite in half. The first round of twining should create about a 4" circle. Continue twining for 6 to 8 more rounds until the spaces between the spokes are large enough to add the five - 3/4" spokes. Twine in the remaining five spokes and continue until the base measures 9". Clip the round twiners. Upsett the stakes.

Over and under weave the following rows:  
2 rows - 5/8" flat reed  
1 row - 1/4" flat **dyled** reed  
1 row - 5/8" flat reed  
(repeat these two rows two more times)  
1 row - 1/4" flat **dyled** reed  
1 row - 3/8" flat reed

(If desired, the push-in handle may be clothes pinned in place to help shape the sides of the basket after 4 or 5 rows of weaving.)

Fold and tuck all of the outside stakes into the inside of the basket. Clip the remaining inside stakes flush with the top row of weaving. Slide the tails of the basket handle down into several rows of weaving. Soak and fit the inside and outside rims. Fit the #6 round rim filler. **Single-lash** the rims and filler down tightly with the 3/16" flat reed lasher.

Using the 3/8" flat ***dyled*** reed, stitch curlicues on the bottom two rows of the basket, (as pictured above). The basket pictured was then "antiqued" by dipping it in golden oak interior woodworking oil stain.

Sign and date your basket. *Good job!*