

# Bicycle Basket



Base: 10" x 5"  
Top: 13" x 8" oval  
Sides: 8"  
Handles: buckled leather straps

Materials:

- 5 pieces @ 33" - 5/8" flat reed (horizontal stakes)
- 9 pieces @ 29" - 5/8" flat reed (vertical stakes)
- 1 piece @ 36" - 1/4" flat reed (locking row)
- 13 pieces @ 44" - 3/8" flat reed (weavers)
- 2 pieces @ 44" - 1/4" flat **dyed** reed (weavers)
- 1 piece @ 44" - 7/8" flat reed (weaver)
- 2 pieces @ 36" - 3/8" flat reed (weavers)
- 2 pieces @ 12" - 3/8" flat reed (weavers)
- 2 pieces @ 42" - 5/8" flat oval reed (inside & outside rims)
- 1 piece @ 40" - #6 round reed (rim filler)
- 2 pieces @ 8" - 3/16" flat oval reed (lashing)
- 2 - 11" x 3/4" buckled leather straps

Soak all stake pieces for several minutes until pliable. Find the rough sides and centers, and lay out the 5 - 33" stakes horizontally in front of you. Lift stake #'s 2 and 4, and slide the center vertical stake under the two lifted stakes. Over and under weave four more stakes vertically to the right of the center stake and four more to the left of the center stake. Square up the base to 9 1/2" x 4 1/2". Weave the 1/4" locking row around the base. Upsett the stakes.

Soak the 3/8" weavers. Over and under weave the following rows, flattening the back and allowing the front of the basket to curve outward as you go:

- 11 rows of 3/8" flat reed
- 1 row of 1/4" flat **dyed** reed
- 1 row of 7/8" flat reed
- 1 row of 1/4" flat **dyed** reed
- 1 rows of 3/8" flat reed

Now tuck the second stake from the right and the second stake from the left on the back of the basket down into several rows of weaving. This will make the holes for the straps to go through. Weave two-36" pieces of 3/8" flat reed around the sides & front of the basket from hole to hole, and two-12" pieces of 3/8" flat reed around the five center back stakes. Weave one final row of 3/8" flat reed all the way around the basket. This will be the last row of weaving to which the rim is attached.

Tuck all of the outside stakes to the inside of the basket. Clip the inside stakes flush with the last row of weaving. Soak the rims, rim filler, and lashing for several minutes. Fit the inside and outside rims overlapping the ends by 2 - 3 inches on opposite sides of the basket. Place the rim filler in between the rims and **double-lash** everything down tightly.

Small flowers, stars, etc., may be painted on the 7/8" row of weaving. An overall water sealant or oil based stain is recommended to preserve the basket.

Sign and date your basket. *Good job!*

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