

Little Northwoods Tote Basket



Base: 3 1/2" x 10 1/2"
Sides: 9 1/2"
Handle: 30" Leather Strapping

Materials:

- 2 pieces @ 34" - 3/4" flat reed (horizontal stakes)
- 1 piece @ 34" - 3/8" flat **dyed** reed (horizontal stakes)
- 2 pieces @ 16" - 1/2" flat reed (bottom fillers)
- 4 pieces @ 26" - 3/4" flat reed (vertical stakes)
- 5 pieces @ 26" - 3/8" flat **dyed** reed (vertical stakes)
- 1 piece @ 36" - 1/4" flat reed (locking row)
- 8 pieces @ 36" - 3/8" flat reed (weavers)
- 8 pieces @ 36" - 3/8" flat **dyed** reed (weavers)
- 1 piece @ 36" - 1" tulip poplar or oak veneer (weaver)
- 7 pieces @ 36" - 1/4" flat reed (weavers)
- 2 pieces @ 34" - 5/8" flat oval reed (inside & outside rims)
- 1 piece @ 32" - #6 round reed (rim filler)
- 2 pieces @ 7" - 11/64" flat reed (lashers)
- 1 pair 30" leather handles

Soak the stakes, bottom fillers, and locking row piece for several minutes until pliable. Find the rough sides and mark the centers. Lay out the two - 3/4" stakes horizontally in front of you rough sides up and about 2" apart. Lay the one - 3/8" **dyed** horizontal stake in between the natural 3/4" stakes. Place the 1/2" bottom fillers on each side of the **dyed** stake. (Always treat the bottom fillers and the **dyed** stake in between the fillers as one single stake when over and under weaving.) Lift the two - 3/4" stakes, and slide a 3/8" **dyed** vertical stake **underneath** the lifted stakes, and **over** the **dyed** center stake and its fillers, into the center position. Over and under weave the following vertical stakes to the right of center:

- one - 3/4" natural stake
- one - 3/8" **dyed** stake
- one - 3/4" natural stake
- one - 3/8" **dyed** stake

Repeat this sequence to the left of the center stake. Square up the base to 3" x 10". Crisscross fold the ends of the filler pieces and tuck them into the third vertical stake from each end on the bottom of the basket, clipping them to hide under the stake. Over and under weave the 1/4" locking row around the basket base. Upsett the stakes.

Over and under weave the following rows:

1 row - 3/8" flat reed
2 rows - 3/8" flat **dyed** reed
1 row - 1" tulip poplar or oak veneer
2 rows - 3/8" flat **dyed** reed
1 row - 3/8" flat reed
7 rows - 1/4" flat reed
1 row - 3/8" flat reed
2 rows - 3/8" flat **dyed** reed
3 rows - 3/8" flat reed
2 rows - 3/8" flat **dyed** reed
2 rows - 3/8" flat reed

When weaving the last row of 3/8" reed, be sure to slip the weaver through the leather handle loops at the 3rd and 7th stake positions on both sides of the basket. (See above picture.)

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.

Soak and fit the inside and outside rims. Sandwich the #6 round rim filler in between the rims. ***Double-lash*** the rims and filler tightly with the 11/64" flat reed lasher.

Sign and date your basket. *Good job!*