

Painted Round Easter Basket



Base: 8 ½" Round
Top: 10" Round
Sides: 4 ½"
Handle: 13" Hardwood

Materials: 12 pieces @ 24" - 5/8" flat reed (spokes)
 42' - #3 round reed (twining)
 10 pieces @ 38" - 3/8" flat reed (weavers)
 2 pieces @ 36" - 5/8" flat oval reed (inside & outside rims)
 1 piece @ 34" - #6 round reed (rim filler)
 1 piece @ 8' - 1/4" flat oval reed (lashing)
 1 - 10" span push-in hardwood handle

Soak the spokes and #3 round reed for several minutes until pliable. Find the rough sides of six spokes and lay them out horizontally in front of you. With a ruler, mark the centers, 2 1/4" to the right of center, and 2 1/4" to the left of center. Lay the marked spokes out in a spoke-like design. Taking a long piece of #3 round reed, crimp and fold it not quite in half. Begin twining around the spokes on the marks making certain your first round makes a 4 ½" circle. Continue twining until the spaces between the spokes are wide enough to add in the remaining six pieces. Add them one at a time, in between the original six spokes and continue twining until the base measures 8 ½" across. End the twiners on the inside of the basket and gently upsett the spokes.

Over and under weave ten rows of 3/8" flat reed.

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 1/4" flat oval reed lasher.

The basket pictured above was dipped in water-based GOLDEN OAK woodworking stain that had been diluted down (1 part stain to 1 part water). Once the basket was completely dry, the rim was taped off and then the basket was sprayed light coats of Rustoleum 2X Painter's Touch.

Sign and date your basket. *Good job!*