

Painted Wall Basket



Base: 4" x 11 1/2" Filled
Front: 4 1/2"
Back: 8"
Handle: 10"

Materials:

- 3 pieces @ 30" – 3/4" flat reed (horizontal stakes)
- 2 pieces @ 18" – 3/8" flat reed (bottom fillers)
- 9 pieces @ 26" – 3/4" flat reed (vertical stakes)
- 1 piece @ 35" - 1/4" flat reed (locking row)
- 8 pieces @ 38" – 1/2" flat reed (weavers)
- 7 pieces @ 26" – 1/2" flat reed (stair step weavers)
- 2 pieces @ 74" - #3 round reed (top twining)
- 2 pieces @ 36" - 1/2" flat oval reed (inside & outside rims)
- 2 pieces @ 7' - 1/4" flat reed (lasher)
- 1 piece @ 15" – 5/8" flat oval reed (handle)
- 2 small nails or tacks

Soak the stake pieces, bottom fillers, and locking row for several minutes until pliable. Find the rough sides and mark the centers. Lay out the three - 30" stakes horizontally in front of you rough sides up. Place the two bottom filler pieces in between the three stakes. Lifting stake #'s 1 & 3, slip a vertical stake under the lifted stakes and over the two fillers and the center horizontal stake. Over and under weave four more vertical stakes to the right of the center stake and four to the left. Square up the base to 3 1/2" x 11". Fold, clip, and tuck the filler pieces into the third stakes from each end of the base, (to the inside bottom of the basket). Weave in the locking row. Upsett the stakes.

Over and under weave 8 rows of 1/2" flat reed. The next 7 rows of 1/2" flat reed weaving are done in stair step fashion on the ends and back of the basket. Begin your weaving on the right end of the basket. Bend a 26" weaver back on its self and hide the end in the weaving. Weave around the right end, the back, and the left end of the basket stopping at the stake on the farthest right. Again bend the weaver back on its self and tuck the end in the weaving. Continue weaving six more rows, each row being woven one stake to the right & one stake to the left LESS than the row before ~ see the picture above.

Twine two rows of #3 round reed around the top of the basket. Fold and tuck all of the stakes to the inside of the basket, clipping them if they are too long to hide down in several rows of weaving.

Soak the 5/8" flat oval reed handle piece until pliable and bend it into a horseshoe shape. Slip the ends down into several rows of weaving on the back of the basket as pictured above.

Soak the rim pieces and lasher for several minutes. Fit the inside and outside rims overlapping 3 inches. **Double-lash** everything down tightly with the 1/4" lasher. Pound the small brass tacks through the inside rim into the handle ends to hold it securely in place.

The basket pictured was finished by first staining the whole thing in a dark oil stain. After it dried the basket was painted with a water-based craft paint and rubbed with a rag dipped in linseed oil (while the paint was wet).

Sign and date your basket. *Good job!*

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