

Peg Mail Basket



Base: 5" x 11"

Top: 8 1/2" x 1"

Sides: 9"

Handle: Leather Strapping

Materials:

- 5 pieces @ 35" - 5/8" flat reed (horizontal stakes)
- 4 pieces @ 18" - 3/8" flat reed (bottom fillers)
- 11 pieces @ 29" - 5/8" flat reed (vertical stakes)
- 1 piece @ 38" - 1/4" flat reed (locking row)
- 5 pieces @ 42" - 3/8" flat reed (weavers)
- 10 pieces @ 42" - 1/2" flat reed (weavers)
- 2 pieces @ 36" - 1/2" flat reed (partial weavers)
- 2 pieces @ 12" - 1/2" flat reed (partial weavers)
- 1 piece @ 42" - 3/8" flat reed (last weaver)
- 2 pieces @ 40" - 5/8" flat oval reed (inside & outside rims)
- 1 piece @ 38" - #6 round reed (rim filler)
- 1 piece @ 15' - 3/16" flat oval reed (lasher)

Soak the stake pieces, bottom fillers pieces and locking row for several minutes until pliable. Find the rough sides and centers. Lay the 5 - 35" pieces out horizontally in front of you. Lay the 4 filler pieces in between the stakes. Lift horizontal stake #'s 2 and 4 along with the filler pieces, and slide the center vertical stake underneath the two lifted stakes and their fillers. (Always treat the bottom fillers and the stakes in between the fillers as single stakes when over and under weaving.) Weave five vertical stakes to the right of center and five to the left of center. Square up the base to 4 1/2" x 10 1/2". 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 stakes. Over and under weave the 1/4" locking row around the stake pieces. Upsett the stakes.

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

5 rows of 3/8" flat reed
10 rows of 1/2" flat reed

Now tuck the third stake from the right and the third stake from the left on the back of the basket down into several rows of weaving. This will make the holes for the pegs 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.

The basket pictured was finished by first staining the whole thing in a dark walnut oil stain. After that 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!*