

Southwest Storage Basket



Base: 17½" x 9"
Top: 19" x 14" Oval
Sides: 8"
Handles: Small Bushel Basket

Materials:

- 4 pieces @ 39" – 5/8" flat reed (horizontal stakes)
- 5 pieces @ 39" – 3/8" flat **dyed** reed (horizontal stakes)
- 8 pieces @ 25" – ½" flat reed (bottom fillers)
- 9 pieces @ 30" – 5/8" flat reed (vertical stakes)
- 8 pieces @ 30" – 3/8" flat **dyed** reed (vertical stakes)
- 1 piece @ 60" – ¼" flat reed (locking row)
- 11 pieces @ 62" – 3/8" flat reed (weavers)
- 4 pieces @ 62" – 3/8" flat **dyed** reed (weavers)
- 4 pieces @ 62" – ¼" flat **dyed** reed (weavers)
- 2 pieces @ 60" – 5/8" flat oval reed (inside & outside rims)
- 1 piece @ 58" - #7 round reed (rim filler)
- 2 pieces @ 12' – 11/64" flat oval reed (lashing)
- 2 small heavy-duty bushel basket handles

Soak the stake pieces, bottom fillers pieces and locking row for several minutes until pliable. Find the rough sides and mark the centers. Lay out the five 39" - 3/8" **dyed** stakes horizontally in front of you, rough sides up and about 2" apart. Lay the four 39" – 5/8" horizontal stakes in between the **dyed** stakes. Place the ½" bottom fillers on each side of the 5/8" stakes. (Always treat the bottom fillers and the 5/8" stakes in between the fillers as single stakes when over and under weaving.) Lift the five **dyed** horizontal stakes and slide a 5/8" natural vertical stake **underneath** the five lifted **dyed** stakes, and **over** the four natural stakes & their fillers, into the center position. Over and under weave the following vertical stakes to the right of center:

- one – 3/8" **dyed** stake
- one – 5/8" natural stake
- one – 3/8" **dyed** stake
- one – 5/8" natural stake
- one – 3/8" **dyed** stake
- one – 5/8" natural stake
- one – 3/8" **dyed** stake
- one – 5/8" natural stake

Repeat this sequence to the left of the center stake. Square up the base to 17" x 8 ½". 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 ¼" locking row around the basket base. Upsett the stakes.

Over and under the following rows:

3 rows – 3/8" flat reed
1 row – 1/4" flat **dyed** reed
1 row – 3/8" flat **dyed** reed
1 row – 3/8" flat reed
1 row – 3/8" flat **dyed** reed
1 row – 1/4" flat **dyed** reed
(repeat this 8-row sequence)
3 rows – 3/8" flat reed

Tuck the outside stakes down into several rows of weaving inside the basket. Clip the inside stakes flush or a bit below the last row of weaving. Slip the tails of the bushel basket handles down into several rows of weaving on opposite *outside* sides of the basket. The notches of the handles should be level with the bottom of the last row of weaving.

Soak the rim pieces and lasher for several minutes. Fit the inside rim overlapping 3 inches. (The outside rim fits inside the notch of the handle.) Fit the outside rim overlapping 3 inches. Sandwich the #7 round reed rim filler between the two rims clipping it on either sides of the handle. ***Double-lash*** everything down tightly with the 11/64" flat oval reed.

Sign and date your basket. *Good job!*