

Swing Handled Gift Basket



Base: 5½" x 7½"
Top: 6½" x 10½"
Sides: 4"
Handle: Wire & Wood
Bale Swing

Materials:

- 5 pieces @ 20" – 5/8" flat reed (horizontal stakes)
- 4 pieces @ 16" – 3/8" flat reed (fillers)
- 7 pieces @ 18" – 5/8" flat reed (vertical stakes)
- 1 piece @ 32" – 1/4" flat reed (locking row)
- 6 pieces @ 34" - 1/2" flat reed (weavers)
- 1 piece @ 34" - 3/8" flat reed (last weaver)
- 2 pieces @ 34" - 1/2" flat oval reed (inside & outside rims)
- 1 piece @ 33" - #6 round reed (rim filler)
- 1 piece @ 7' – 1/4" flat reed (lasher)
- 1 – 6" span wire & wood bale handle with ears

Soak the stake pieces and bottom filler pieces. Find the rough sides and centers. Lay out the 5 - 20" pieces horizontally in front of you. Lay the four filler pieces in between the stakes. Lift stake #'s 2 & 4 and the four filler pieces, and slide the center vertical stake underneath the lifted stakes and fillers into the center position. Now weave three vertical stakes to the right of center and three to the left of center. (Always treat the bottom fillers and the stake in between the fillers as a single stake when over and under weaving.) Square up the base to 5" x 7". Crisscross fold the ends of the filler pieces and tuck them into the third vertical stake from each end, clipping them to hide under the stake. Over and under weave the 1/4" locking row around the stake pieces. Upsett the stakes.

Over and under weave six rows of 1/2" flat reed and one row of 3/8" flaring outward *slightly*.

Position the wire ears on opposite sides of the basket. Fold all of the outside stakes to the inside of the basket and tuck them down into several rows of weaving. (The stakes will tuck over the wire tails of the ears.) Clip the inside stakes flush or a bit below the last row 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 reed lasher.

The basket pictured above was finished by spraying it completely inside and out with red oil-based paint. Once that paint was almost dry the whole basket was dipped it in dark walnut oil stain. The spray paint pulls some of the walnut stain through, giving the basket the appearance of being aged and weathered.

Sign and date your basket. *Good job!*