

## Round we go!



**Tested by Vicky Nicolaci and Karrie Wright**

**Basket size approximately 4 ½ inch base diameter X 4 ½ inch height**

**Materials needed:**

3/8 flat flat reed – 8 spokes 20” long

1 rim row

#2 round reed – long pieces for base twining

2 shorter pieces for rim twining

¼” flat oval reed natural – 11 weavers

1 long piece for lashing

¼” flat oval reed dyed – 5 weavers

16 vertical overlays 5 – 6” long for each spoke

**Tools needed:** bucket for water, pinch clothespins or small clamps, tape measure, pencil, full size scissors, awl or small flat head screwdriver, old hand towel, spoke weight or another weighted device.

**Soaking:** Round reed needs to be soaked in warm water for about five minutes; flat or half flat natural reed for 2 minutes; dyed reed quick in and out since the dye tends to bleed. Wipe dyed reed with towel after wetting.

**Base:** Find the rough side of 4 spokes and lay them out horizontally in front of you. The side that splinters when you bend it is the rough or wrong side.

With a ruler and pencil, mark the center, 1” to the right of center and 1” to the left of center. You should now have three marks on each of the first 4 spokes.

Laying out the basket base: Take two of your 4 spokes. Lay one horizontal.

Lay the second spoke vertically on top of the first spoke matching up your center marks.

Take your other 2 marked spokes. Lay them on top of your first 2 spokes lining up the center marks to make an X between your first 2 spokes.

Take a long piece of #2 round reed that has been well soaked in water. Find the middle of the round reed. Then crimp with pliers at not quite in half, one end should be 3 – 4” longer.

Slide the crimped round reed on a spoke close to the top so one half is under the spoke and the other is over the spoke. Try to keep your less dominant hand on your weaving as you progress.

The two long round reed tails should be hanging to the right side of the circle if you are right handed, the tails should be hanging to the left side of the circle if you are left handed.

**Twining:** Twining is the process of always weaving the top twiner behind the next spoke.

Take your half that is over the spoke and go under the spoke on the right, if right handed.

If left handed, take the half of the round reed that is over the spoke and go under the spoke on the left.

Now take the twiner that is on top of the spoke and twine behind the next right spoke.

Left handers, twine behind the next left spoke.

Always twine with the top twiner.

Once you twine a full row and reach your starting point, your spokes should be held in place. It's a good time to adjust your circle and straighten out the spoke spacing to be equal distance apart.

Keep twining around the circle by taking the top twiner and weaving it behind the next spoke.

You will twine for 5 rows. Stop twining but do not cut your twining, it's time to add in your 4 additional spokes.

Wet your spokes and mark the centers only.

Place a spoke between two other spokes.

Take your top twiner and go under the new spoke. Then take the top twiner that's on the new spoke and twine under the already woven in spoke. Take another new spoke and place between the next two spokes. Take the top twiner and twine under the new spoke. Take the top twiner and twine under the already woven in spoke. Continue this until all spokes are twined into the base.

Continue twining for 4 more rows.

Approximate size 4 ½ inches in diameter.

**Upset the spokes:** Wet all spokes with your spray bottle close to the end of the twining. Take one spoke at a time and bend the spoke gently toward the inside of the basket. I usually bend each spoke over my index finger. This helps to give the spokes a memory to start to stand straight up from the twining.

**Weaving the ¼" flat oval natural weavers:** Weave one row at a time, over one/under one. Weave with the good side of the reed (smooth, less splintery side) towards the outside of the basket. Place the end of the reed on the outside of a spoke. Weave all the way around - over one/under one - using lots of clothespins to hold it in place. The more clothespins you use, the better shaped basket you will get.

To finish a row, overlap your piece of reed by two spokes and cut it off. If woven correctly, both ends will be hidden. The end of the weaver will slip into weaving at the beginning of that same row.

Consecutive rows are opposite the row before it (if over/under, then under/over). Be sure to rotate your basket so that all your stop/starts will not be in the same area. Also be sure to pack down the rows as you weave so that there are no spaces showing between the rows of weaving.

Rows 1 – 5: ¼” oval natural weavers

**Overlays:** Gently push the dry ¼” reed overlays on each spoke under the weavers. Hide the ends under an over the spoke weaver. The overlay and spoke are now one unit.

**Weave ¼” dyed weavers:**

Rows 6 – 10: ¼” dyed: - Weave 5 rows over and under, start and stop.

**Weave ¼” natural weavers:**

Rows 11 – 15 or 16: ¼” natural: Weave 5 – 6 rows over and under, start and stop.

**Weave ¼” dyed weaver:**

Row 16 or 17: ¼” dyed: Weave 1 row over and under, start and stop.

**Twine #2 reed for two rows.**

Last 2 rows

## **Sawtooth Rim**

Take a 3/8 inch piece of flat flat reed. This is your rim.

Lay the reed right side on the inside of your basket facing out directly on top of your last row of twining and against your spokes.



With your reed inside your basket, cut the reed length leaving yourself a 2 inch overlap. The rim will always be on the inside of your basket.



Using clamps or clothes pins, clamp the cut to size rim right side facing out directly on top of your last row of twining and against your spokes on the inside of the basket.



Take the ¼ inch lasher and clamp one end of the lasher to any spoke, leaving a three inch tail.



Take the long end of the lasher and thread it under the rim row between two spokes and out to the front of the basket.



Remember: if right handed you will weave to the right on your basket and your spokes will be folded to the right, if left handed you will weave to the left on your basket and your spokes will be folded to the left.

Take your lasher and weave over the next spoke towards the inside of your basket.



Take your lasher under the rim and back out to the front of your basket and cinch down your lashing.



Bend the spoke you just lashed over to the outside right.



Your spoke should now be folded to the right and your lasher is to the left of the spoke.

Take your lasher and go over the folded down spoke and over the next spoke to the inside of your basket.



Take the lasher under the rim row to the outside of the basket. Cinch down your lasher.

Bend the next spoke to the right.



Lash over the bent spoke and over the next spoke, behind the rim and back out to the front of the basket. Cinch your lasher.



Keep doing this until you get around to the last spoke. Loosen up the lasher to be able to slip the last bent spoke under the lasher to the outside of the basket.



To hide the outside end of lasher, slide it up under the next bent spoke and on top the lashing. Cut hidden lashing flush to the bent spoke.



To hide the inside end of the lasher, slide it under the outside bent spoke and over the lashing. Cut flush.



Trim the end of your bent over spokes so the spoke isn't showing on the outside of the basket.

Enjoy your basket!