

TAPER CANDLE BASKET

WITH WOODEN BASE & WIRE

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Woven Branch Designs

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Approximate Finished Size:

3"x3" B x 7" H x 4"x4" Top

All Levels

Directions are written from the right hand point of view.

Materials:

3/8" Flat Reed (FR) Natural stakes
(medium to stiff flexibility)
17 stakes 10" long

1/4" FR Natural weavers

1/4" FR Dyed weavers (enough for 3 rows, about 48")

3/8" FR Natural rim (thick and stiff)

11/64" or 3/16" FR Natural (flexible pieces for lashing rim)

#0 Seagrass natural or dyed to match dyed reed (rim filler)

3" x 3" Square Slotted Wooden Base

Candle Wire (#86) or wire shape of your choice

For Supplies Contact:
The Country Seat, Inc.
www.countryseat.com
610-756-6124
1013 Old Philly Pike
Kempton PA 19529-9321

Recommended Tools:

Basket Shear (heavy duty sharp scissor) & Plato Shear

1/2" Rubber Tipped Clamps (at least 6-8)

Flat tipped Awl (Weaverite™ B or D) or Fid & Packing Tool (Weaverite™ H)

Eversand™ Pads 1400/1401

Place stakes in warm water. Only put weaving materials in the warm water shortly before you need them. Do not over-soak. Do not soak natural and dyed reed in the same container. There is a right (smooth) and wrong (rough) side to reed. The right side should face the outside of the weaving while the wrong side faces the inside of the basket.

Base:

Rough sand the wooden base. Decide which will be the top and bottom. Place the best side down against the table-top.

Place a stake, rough side down, into the slot in the center of each side.

Place a stake into the slot on each of the four corners.

Now place one spoke into the base in between each of the original stakes with the remaining stakes (8 stakes).

You will have one stake left over. Inset this one into the base on any side that seems to have more space than the others. This will give you a stake at each corner with 3 stakes in the center of three sides and 4 stakes in the center of one side.

Evenly space the stakes.

NOTE for weaving the first two rows when slot is wide and stakes move around easily:

when weaving under a stake, lift the stake with your finger and slide the weaver under the stake.

OR, slide the stake out and replace on top of the weaver. You can also bend a tiny piece of twist tie over the end of the stake and wedge the stake and twist tie into the slot as far as they will go (make sure the twist tie does not show).

On rows 3 through the rim row, snake (bend the weaver, not the stake - think of a snake moving around a garden fence) the weavers around the stationary stakes. If stakes are wedged into the slot and do not slide around, snake the weaver around the stakes from the first row on.



Sides:

Taper (cut on an angle) a **very flexible piece of 1/4" FR for 12 – 16"**. Insert the tip of the weaver into the slot and weave under a spoke and over the next spoke (weave over 1, under 1) around the base.

Weave the first two rows, flat on the table and keep the weavers snug up against the base. *Because there are an odd number of stakes, this is a continuous weave so you will continue to weave to weave around the basket until your weaver runs out.* **Stop and double check that all stakes are pushed into the slot as far as they will go.**

Reposition and space the stakes evenly.

For the third row, gently lift up the base and place it on its side with all stakes bending away from you. You are now looking at the (out) side of the basket, **weave the remaining rows** from the outside of the basket, gently pushing the stakes upright. You can gently pull on the weaver, but remember to pack the weaving down toward the base. As soon as the stakes are pointing straight up, stop pushing in on the stakes or your basket will keep getting smaller in diameter as you weave up the sides. Gently move the stakes to the left or right to maintain even spacing between all the stakes.



When your weave runs out, add a new weaver by overlapping the two ends of the weavers for 4 stakes.



Weave a **total** of 18 rows of natural. Decide which will be the front and back of your basket. On the back of the basket end your natural weaver. The natural weaver should end on top (outside) of the corner stake on the right side.

Your last row of natural 1/4" FR should be behind the center stake on the "front" of your basket. If it is not, weave one more row. Add a dyed weaver by overlapping for four stakes.

Weave 3 rows of 1/4" FR dyed. End this weaver on the back just like you did the natural weaver above. Now add a new natural weaver by overlapping for four stakes and weave 6 rows.

On the last row you again need to taper the weaver for 12" - 16" so your weaving will end gracefully and you will not have a large bump and space where you finish.

Weave 1 row of 1/4" FR natural in a start/stop method (once around the basket). This is just one row and the end of the row overlaps the beginning of the weaver for 4 stakes.

(the last row will be under the rim, this can be a junky piece of reed).

Rim:

After the weavers have dried, gently push down the weavers toward the base to eliminate any gaps (*a great tool to help this process is the Weaverite™ tool letter H, heavy-duty packing tool*).

Rewet the top of the stakes.

Cut the stakes that are on the **INSIDE** of the rim row **flush** with the top of the rim row (*an angled blade Plato shear is a great tool for this job*).

Tuck down the outside stakes to the inside of the basket, behind a couple rows of weaving. Clamp the wire to the basket and tuck stakes over the wire and into the basket. *See picture at right.*

Flat tipped awls (Weaverite™ tool letter B or D) and Fids are great tools for tucking spokes and creating space under the rim for a lasher.

The 3/8" FR outside rim should wrap twice around the basket and overlap approximately 4-6". Place the outside overlap on the side with the wire (the back). The inside rim is a single piece of reed. Stagger the overlaps so they don't fall at the same place on the basket. If you overlap the inside rim on the front side of the basket, you will not see it. Trim the end of the rim overlap so that it matches the angle of the lasher (*this can be done during the lashing process*). Clamp the rim in place with 1/2" rubber tipped clamps and fit a piece of Seagrass between the rim pieces for the rim filler.

Lashing the Rim:

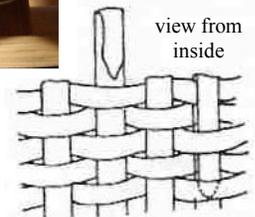
Soak the 11/64" or 3/16" FR lasher (flexible piece at least 3 times the diameter of the top of the basket) for approximately 2 - 5 minutes. Secure the end of the lasher in the inside of the rim (see diagram at right). Lash from the outside, under the rim, over the top of the rim and insert back under the rim in between the next two stakes, moving from left to right. When you reach the wire, make sure the lasher comes **OVER & UNDER** the wire bar. Overlap the beginning (1 - 3) lashes and hide the end inside the rim.

Trim the hairs with a Basket Shear and give base a final sanding. Over-dye the basket in your choice of color, or leave natural. Brush a thin coat of mineral oil, spray Weaver's Stain or other finish on the basket and hang to dry.

HAPPY WEAVING!



view from outside



view from inside

