



Easter Basket

Supplies Needed:

- 1/2" Flat Reed
- 1/2" Flat Space-Dyed Reed, Country Garden
- #2 Round Reed
- #3 Round Reed
- 1/2" Flat Oval Reed
- #3 Seagrass
- 3/16" Flat Oval Reed
- 10" Round Notched Handle

1. Out of 1/2" flat natural, cut 6 stakes 25" long and mark the midpoints. Nail the stakes to a board through the midpoints (smooth sides up). Fan the stakes out equally. Fold a piece of #2 round reed almost in half, loop it around 1 stake about 1-1/2" from the center nail and twine 1 row around the center. Make sure it's perfectly round and centered and then continue twining until the bottom measures 6" in diameter.
2. Out of 1/2" Flat Space-dyed reed, cut 6 stakes 25" long repeat step 1 with these stakes.
3. Place one bottom on top of the other, offsetting the stakes. Make sure the smooth sides of both bottoms are facing up. Join together by continuing to twine around each individual stake by using the #2 round reed from one of the bottoms. (Cut the #2 round from the other bottom off.) Twine until the bottom is 7-1/2" in diameter. End the #2 round reed weavers on the rough sides of the stakes by cutting off.
4. Upset the stakes. Begin weaving with 3 pieces of #3 round reed. You'll be doing 3-rod weld (twining with 3 pieces) for 8 rows. Shape the basket so that the stakes start standing just a little straighter each row. By the end of the 8th row, the sides of the basket should be straight up. Your basket should be about 9-1/2" in diameter.
5. Clothespin the notched handle to the stakes it is going to be inserted behind so that you can weave around it as you go. Weave 7 rows with 1/2" space-dyed reed, overlapping for 4 stakes and cutting the weaver off each row.
6. Do 4 more rows of 3-rod weld with #3 round reed. If your handle's notch is starting to get really thick, stop weaving around the handle and weave just around the stake from now on.

6. We're finished weaving up the side of the basket, so we're going to start the border by twining 3 rows with #2 round reed. Cut the two stakes that are on the outside of the handle off so that the ends are under the 3 rows of #2 twining. The rest of the stakes are going to tuck into the basket by going over the 3 rows of twining and under the 4 rows of 3-rod weld. Cut the ends off so that they end under the 4 rows of 3-rod weld.
7. Place a piece of 1/2" flat oval on the inside of the basket, flat side against the basket, covering up the top 3 rows of twining and then put a piece of 1/2" flat oval on the outside of the top 3 rows of twining, flat side against the basket. Overlap the ends a bit and be sure to thin the overlapped ends down so that your border is not double thick there. Place the ends of the 1/2" flat oval that show in a place where the "x" of your border will hide them. Put a piece of #3 seagrass on top of the basket, between the 2 pieces of 1/2" flat oval and do an "x-ed" border using your 3/16" flat oval.
8. It's time to do the curls with a piece of 1/2" Space-Dyed reed. With the rough side up, start the end under the stake beside the handle on the 1st row woven with 1/2" space-dyed reed. Form the curl by going to the next stake that's 1 row up. See the diagram below. Do this until you have 5 curls. Then you want to do 5 more curls going down the side of the basket and ending behind the stake beside the handle. Do a second row of curls under the one you just did with 3 curls going up and then 3 curls coming down. Repeat on the other side of the basket.

