



On a Whim by Alice West

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Dimensions: 8" X 9"

Materials Needed:

1/2" flat reed for stakes, natural, cut 17 stakes at 27 inches
1/2" flat reed for weavers, natural
3/8" flat reed for weavers, space dyed of your choice
#3 round reed for locking in base and for the row with beads
1/4" flat reed for the rim row
1/2" flat oval for rim (outside)
1/2" flat reed for rim (inside)
Seagrass for filling the rim row
3/16" flat oval for lashing, natural
1/4" flat reed for curls, space dyed of your choice
18 Pony Beads
Handle – 8 inch D Handle

To make the Basket:

1. Cut 17 pieces of 1/2" flat reed 27 inches long for stakes. Soak stakes until pliable.
2. Lay out base 9 horizontal spokes and 8 vertical spokes with handle in the middle (four spokes will be on each side of the handle). Base will measure 8 X 9 inches.
3. Lock in the base with #3 round reed for one row.
4. Weave three rows of 1/2" flat reed, natural.
5. Weave four rows 3/8" flat reed, spaced dyed of your choice. You will note rows 2 and 3 of the spaced dyed reed are woven the same. Round reed is woven after the second row

of spaced dyed - you string the Pony Beads on the round reed at each outside spoke. (see picture) *You will have two rows space dyed reed, one row round reed with Pony Beads, and two rows spaced dyed reed.*

6. Weave two rows of 1/2" flat reed, natural
7. Weave one row of 1/4" flat reed – rim row.
8. Measure and soak the 1/2" flat oval reed and the 1/2" flat reed for the rim. When pliable, place the 1/2" flat reed inside for the inside rim. Place the 1/2" flat oval reed on the outside for the rim.
9. Place the seagrass between the 1/2" flat oval and flat reeds as a filler.
10. Lash the rim in place with 3/16" flat oval.

To make the Curls/Flowers: *Please view picture while making the flowers.* This helps!

Alternating between rows 6 and 7, take rough side of 1/4" flat reed and place behind 2nd stake from the end of row 7. Pull reed until even on each side of this spoke. Start with reed on the right and loop and insert under the 3rd stake from the end (on row 6), then up and under next stake, etc. Go around until you run out of reed, then pick up the reed on the left and continue doing the same thing in the opposite direction.

Now, alternating between rows 4 and 5, take the rough side of 1'4" flat reed and place behind the 3rd stake from the end of row 5. Pull reed until even on each side of this spoke. Start with reed on the right and loop and insert under the 4th stake from the end, then down and under next stake (on row 4), etc. Go around until you run out of reed, then pick up the reed on the left and continue doing the same thing in the opposite direction.

The pony beads are the center of each flower!

Alice West is a member of the Dream Weavers of Matthews Guild. She started weaving baskets in her seventies and she's logged in over 130 baskets during her two years of weaving. She has made 10 of these baskets using personalized handles for her relatives and friends! If you have any questions, she can be reached at classicclassrooms@carolina.rr.com