

Abby's Tote

Materials Needed:

- 5/8" Flat (spokes)
- 1/2" Flat (filler & weavers)
- 3/8" Flat (weavers)
- 1/4" Flat Oval (weavers)
- #2 Round Reed (keeper rows)
- 3/8" Flat or 7mm Flat (rim row)
- 1/2" Flat Oval (inside & outside rim)
- 3/16" Flat Oval (lashing)
- Seagrass (rim filler)
- 3 Yards 1" wide Shaker Tape



Preparation:

- Cut: 11 Spokes of 5/8" Flat, 30" long
5 Spokes of 5/8" Flat, 36" long
4 Fillers of 1/2" Flat, 17" long

Size: 13" L x 6" W x 9 3/4" H (approx.)

Base:

- Wet spokes (don't over soak) and mark centers on rough side.
- Lay the five 36" spokes horizontally rough side up. Place fillers in between. Align center marks.
- **Weave center 30" vertical spoke under spokes and over fillers.** Add remaining vertical spokes 5 on each side of center vertical spoke. Align center marks. Pack base to 12 x 5 inches. Place clips at corners to retain shape.
- Turn base spokes over (right side up). Wet fillers spokes thoroughly at bend point. Bend fillers to the bottom of the basket. Trim, split and tuck filler spokes chicken feet style under 2nd spoke from each side.
- Turn over base (wrong side up) and twine two keeper rows with #2 round reed.
- Wet spokes and base well at spoke upset point. Upset spokes.

Weave sides:

- Wet weavers until pliable (don't over soak)
 - Weave the following start stop rows and concentrating on shaping. Stakes need to go straight up with the same spacing between spokes. Be sure corners maintain the same distance between spokes.
 - Row 1: 3/8" Flat
 - **Weave under 3rd and 9th spokes**
 - Row 2: 1/2" Flat
 - Row 3: 1/4" Flat Oval
 - Row 4: 1/2" Flat
 - Row 5: 1/4" Flat Oval
 - Row 6: 1/2" Flat
 - Rows 7-21: 1/4" Flat Oval (15 rows)
 - Row 22: 1/2" Flat
 - Row 23: 1/4" Flat Oval
 - Row 24: 1/2" Flat
 - Row 25: 1/4" Flat Oval
 - Row 26: 1/2" Flat
 - Row 27: 3/8" Flat
 - Row 28: 3/8" or 7mm Flat (rim row)
- Pack entire basket

Finishing:

- Spray spokes thoroughly. Cut inside spokes even with rim row and tuck the outside spokes to inside of basket.
 - Tip: For a pleasing look on the inside of your basket, always tuck spokes into the same weaving row.
- Rim with ½" flat oval on the inside and outside of the basket. Use Seagrass for rim filler.
- Insert plastic tape guides under the outside rim at the 3rd and 9th spokes.

Plastic Shaker Tape Guides:

Use 1" plastic window shade slats that are approximately 3-4 inches long. Old shades can be used or scrap cuttings can be obtained from stores that cut shades to size. Place two strips together with curves to the outside form one guide. For Abby's Tote 8 strips are needed.

If plastic window shade slats are not available, guides can be cut from plastic milk cartons or other similar plastic materials.

- Lash rim with ¾" flat oval. Lash around tape guides as you would a handle.
- Stain and let dry. Plastic guides can be folded outward to stain the basket.
- Shaker Tape:
 - Insert the Shaker tape on the 3rd spoke going under weaving rows 2, 4, 6, 22, 24 (under ½" flat rows) and between the plastic tape guides in the rim.
 - Be careful not to twist the handle. The right side edge of the tape coming up through the rim should be the on the inside going down through the guide on the left side.
 - Thread tape down the tape guide at the 9th spoke and under the weaving rows 24, 22, 6, 4, and 2.
 - Take the tape across the bottom and repeat threading tape on the opposite side.
 - Over lap the shaker tape ends by about 3-4 inches. Stitch or glue with strong high set glue. If glued, hide the exposed tape end by placing it under weaving row 4.
- Remove the plastic tape guides.
- Sign, date and enjoy your beautiful new basket!

