

## Carry Everything Tote

by Dixie Link, January 2010, reviewed & updated June 2018

The size of this tote can be altered by choosing different widths of reed for the spokes. I have provided spoke info for this tote, and the smaller and larger versions. See page 2 for the variations.



This tote is 10" x 19 1/2" x 10" deep

### Supplies

Flat reed: 3/4" & 7/8" for spokes; 1/2" for fillers and weavers; 3/8" or 1/2" for rim row  
Dyed reed of the sizes and colors you wish. (Color pattern ideas you might use are on page 3)  
#3 Round reed to twine 2 rows around base  
Flat Oval: 3/4" for rims (5/8" if preferred); 1/4" for lashing  
Seagrass for rim filler  
3 yards of Shaker Tape for handles

### Prep:

- From 3/4" flat reed, cut **13** (vertical) spokes at 35 inches.
- From 7/8" flat reed, cut **7** (horizontal) spokes at 44 inches.
- From 1/2" flat reed, cut **6** fillers at 28 inches.

### The base:

- Lay the spokes and fillers on the table rough sides up. Weave the center, vertical spoke, **over the horizontal spokes** and under the fillers. Weave the remaining 12 spokes with 6 on each side of the center spoke. You should end with the last spokes, on each end, under the long spoke and over the filler.
- Weave the base to 19" long. Check your base measurements and adjust to desired base length, with spokes evenly spaced. Make sure the horizontal spokes & fillers are packed tight.
- Clip the corners, turn the base over. Make sure the filler spokes are damp, then upset them. Tuck the fillers, "chicken feet" style on the bottom of the basket. -----> ----->
- **After the fillers are tucked, turn the base back to rough side up.**
- Twine 2 rows with #3 round reed.
- Upset the spokes.



**The sides** can be woven with any combination of reeds. Determine if you will add color and how much. **For the basket as pictured, Weave**

9 rows with 1/2" flat  
5 rows with 1/4" with flat or flat oval, alternating rows dyed and natural reed  
1 row with 5/8" natural flat  
3 rows with 1/4" flat or flat oval alternating rows dyed and natural reed  
4 rows with 1/2" flat  
1 row with 3/8" flat for rim row

**If you decide to make your sides taller or use different sizes of reed for weavers, be sure that the total number of rows woven (including the rim row) is an odd number. This causes the weavers supporting the bottom of the basket to be the ones that are tucked, and makes the basket stronger.**

Rim with 3/4" flat oval.  
Double lash with 1/4" flat oval.  
Stain your basket.  
Lace in Shaker tape handles, adjusted to your preferred carrying length.

## Variations

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**For a smaller tote 9" x 14 1/2" x 8-9" deep:** Use 3/4" flat for spokes and 1/2" flat for fillers.

From 3/4" flat reed, Cut **11** spokes at 33 inches, and **7** spokes at 40 inches.

From 1/2" flat reed, cut **6** fillers at 22 inches.

Mark the centers of the spokes and fillers

- Lay the spokes and fillers on the table rough sides up. Weave the center, vertical spoke, **under the horizontal spokes** and over the fillers. Weave the base to 14" long.
- Clip the corners, turn the base over. Tuck the fillers, "chicken feet" style on the bottom of the basket. After the fillers are tucked, turn the base back to rough side up.
- Twine 2 rows with #3 round reed.



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**For a really BIG tote 12" x 20-24" x 10" deep:** Use 7/8" flat for spokes and 1/2" flat for fillers.

From 7/8" flat reed, Cut **13** spokes at 40 inches, and **9** spokes at 50 inches.

From 1/2" flat reed, cut **8** fillers at 33 inches.

Mark the centers of the spokes and fillers

- Lay the spokes and fillers on the table rough sides up. Weave the center, vertical spoke, **over the horizontal spokes** and under the fillers. Weave the base to 20-23.5" long.
  - Clip the corners, turn the base over. Tuck the fillers, "chicken feet" style on the bottom of the basket. After the fillers are tucked, turn the base back to rough side up.
  - Twine 2 rows with #3 round reed.
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## Tips:

- Measurements for the spokes are generous. No need to cut them extra long.
- Make the reed start/stop overlaps on the ends of the basket. This keeps them away from the path of the shaker tape handles.
- The corners on this basket are woven straight up. The January 2017 issue of the Twining Times Newsletter, has a most helpful article for this, see Jan Oberlag's "Right Around the Corner - Tips and Tricks"
- Tucking option – you can tuck fillers in line under 2 spokes, instead of chicken feet tucking. If you do this straight tuck, consider gluing the space from the upset to the first tucked spoke. This makes them tight and flat.
- The very large basket might require a few more inches of shaker tape for the handles, depending upon the basket width, and your preference for handle length.

## Color Patterns

