

Do it Your Way

*A basket with Bands & Lines of Color, or sprinkled with Confetti
Inspired by a pattern of Barbara Weber called "Lines of Color"*



This pattern is the basis for your own unique basket. The design lends its self to many options -- you can make the bottom open or filled, you can use one color for the all the overlays or many colors. You can make lines of color or confetti. The design works as a bushel basket or keep on weaving and make it a hamper. You can make the base square or rectangular. It can be short and fat, tall and wide or tall and skinny, make it your way.

Materials

- **Spokes:** 1/2 inch flat reed. Cut 18 at 36 inches for the Bushel (about 12 inches tall). - **OR** -
- **OR** - Cut 18 at 48 -50 inches for the Hamper (16 to 18 inches tall).
- **Fillers:** If you are making a **filled bottom** - cut 8 fillers at 15 inches. Use 3/8 inch flat for a base 7 1/2" by 7 1/2" - **OR** - if you want the base a little larger, cut the filler spokes from 1/2" reed.
- **Weavers:** 3/8" flat; and #3 round reed.
Please note: this basket requires nearly the entire pound of #3 round reed.
- **Dyed reed Overlays:** You can use 1/4" flat or flat oval, or 7mm flat for the overlays.
Consider space dyed reed, or use a variety of color scraps, or a select single color for all.
Cut 36 at 12 inches for the bushel; *or at 18 inches for the hamper.*
- **Rim row:** 3/8 inch flat
- **Rims:** 1/2 inch or 5/8 inch flat oval
- **Lasher:** 11/64 or 3/16 flat over.
- **Handles:** one pair of Leather handles 10 inches long by 5/8 inch wide , **or** 2 bushel handles.

Base

Wet spokes and fillers. Mark the centers.

Options Note: The original pattern calls for a square base. You can chose to do the square layout, or if you'd prefer you can lay this basket out as a rectangle. You might choose the rectangle if you are making a big hamper basket, or a tote.

For the square, filled base:

Lay out 9 spokes (rough side up), with filler pieces between each spoke.

Weave in the 9 vertical spokes. Start in the center, over the long spoke, under the filler.

Square the base . With fillers cut from 3/8" reed the base will be 7 1/2" by 7 1/2" **OR** with fillers from 1/2" reed the base will be 8 1/2" by 8 1/2".

Clip the corners, and turn the base over to tuck the filler spokes on the bottom of the basket. Tuck the fillers under the third spoke from the end, on both sides.

Turn the base, back to rough sides up.

Twine 2 rows with #3 round reed. End weavers. Upset spokes.

For the rectangular filled base: Lay out 7 horizontal spokes, with 6 fillers cut from 1/2" flat, and weave in 11 vertical spokes. Start in the center, over the long spoke, under the filler. True the base to a pleasing rectangle. Clip the corners, and turn the base over to tuck the filler spokes on the bottom of the basket. Tuck the fillers under the third spoke from the end, on both sides. Turn the base, back to rough sides up. Twine 2 rows with #3 round reed. End weavers. Upset spokes.

For an open base, rectangular or square: Lay out the spokes as above, but without the fillers.

Sides

Option: Start by weaving one row of five (5) rod wale with #4 round reed to set the bottom edge.

- Weave 5 rows of three (3) rod wale, doing a step-up at the end of each row. End the weavers
- Weave 3 rows (over/under) start-stop with flat reed. (*With all rows 1/4" or 7mm; or first and third rows with 1/4" flat and middle row woven with 3/8" flat*).
- Insert your overlays on top of each spoke by sliding the overlay under the 5 rows of 3 rod wale. (*If you have chosen the "confetti" option, insert the overlays before weaving the flat reed rows.*)

It is not necessary to have the overlay spokes wet. In fact, working with them dry will prevent color runs.

- Weave 5 rows of three (3) rod wale, doing a step-up at the end of each row. End the weavers.
- Weave 3 rows (over/under) start-stop with flat reed. These rows will be woven behind the overlay pieces. (*Unless you have chosen the "confetti" option for your basket. If weaving confetti, weave the spoke and overlay as one.*)
- Weave 5 rows of three (3) rod wale, doing a step-up at the end of each row. End the weavers.
- Weave 3 rows (over/under) start-stop with flat reed.
- Weave 5 rows of three (3) rod wale, doing a step-up at the end of each row. End the weavers.

Repeat the above steps until the basket is as tall as you wish it to be, or until you have reached the top 3-4 inches of the spokes or the weaving is as high as the overlay spokes allow.

Note: The side weaving ends with 5 rows of three-rod wale.

Rim

- Pack the weaving and make sure that the basket is level.
- Weave the rim row with 3/8" flat. If you are using leather handles, you may want to slide them into place on to the rim row, as you weave.
- Trim the overlays to the height of the rim row.
- Cut and tuck your spokes.

Options: Tuck your spokes into the 5 rows of three-rod wale; or pass them over the 5 rows of three-rod wale and tuck them into the flat reed rows.

- Position the handles.
- Rim with 1/2" or 5/8" flat oval.
- Double Lash.



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