



## Laundry/Carryall Basket

### Materials:

7/8" flat

5/8" flat

7mm flat

#3 round

3/8" flat

5/8" flat oval

#3 seagrass

6mm binder cane

Note: All materials need to be dampened before use except the seagrass.

From 7/8" flat cut 6 spokes @ 42" and 14 spokes at 38". Mark the centers on the wrong (rough) side. Dampen and with rough side up, lay out 3 of the long spokes, 3 of the shorter spokes, then the other 3 long spokes horizontally, matching centers and leaving about 3/8" between each. Begin weaving the other 11 spokes vertically, beginning in the center and going OVER the outside spoke. Weave 5 spokes on each side of center. Be sure there is even spacing between your spokes. Your base should measure about 12" x 16".

Using 2 long pieces of #3 round, twine around the base 2 times, being sure to snug the twining up against the base. Spray spokes at the twining and upset (bend over so they stand up.) You will now be working on the outside (smooth side) for all weaving.

Using clothespins, clip corner spokes while you weave the first 2 or 3 rows to help hold their shape. (Unclip as you weave around the corner, then clip again.) Weave 12 start-stop rows of 5/8" flat with a 4 spoke overlap. Be sure to start on the OUTSIDE of the 1<sup>st</sup> spoke you weave on and end under the 4<sup>th</sup> spoke from where you begin. Rotate your basket to begin each row on a different side. Pack as you weave and keep your spokes going straight up or slightly flared out.

Pack again, then spray with water and tuck the 3 center spokes on each end. The center spoke will tuck to the outside. This will form the handle space.

Using the 7mm flat, weave 6 rows from handle space to handle space, tucking to the inside or the outside on each end as you go. Pack well.

Using 3/8" flat, weave a rim row, going all the way around and curving over the handle space. Place 2 pieces of 5/8" @ 8" on EACH side of the rim row over the handle space to be held by tucked spokes. This will make the handle sturdy. Cut the inside spokes even with the rim row and tuck the outside spokes to the inside of the basket.

Measure around your basket at the top. Using 5/8" flat oval, cut the outside rim 3 inches longer than the measurement and cut the inside rim 1 1/2" longer than the measurement. Scarf the top of one end and the bottom of the other end with a small plane, scraper or draw knife so that when joined, it is the same thickness as the rest of the rim. Clamp in place, insert sea grass, and lash the rim with the 6mm binder cane. Begin in the middle of a long side. Lash over each spoke tightly and wrap tightly around the handles leaving no spaces in the wrapping. You will probably use 2 pieces of the 6mm to get all the way around.

Sign the bottom, and stain and/or oil your basket. You may make a simple stain using tea and coffee, or buy a commercial one. To oil your basket to help preserve it, use Liquid Gold, baby oil, or any other wood oil.

Enjoy for laundry or whatever else you choose.

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Tools that are helpful:

Basket shears

Letter opener, screwdriver or straight WeaveRite tool

Spoke weight

Packing tool – either a bone awl or bent WeaveRite tool

2" spring clips or clothes pins

Spray bottle

Water bucket