

INTERNATIONAL INSTANT MEETING IDEAS

LEBANON

Lebanon Grass Weaving originated as a way of meeting the requirements of the people living in the country. The practice of grass weaving and the handcrafted products soon became an integral part of Lebanese crafts. The beauty of Lebanon grass weaving lies mostly in the unusual combination of simplicity and elegance.

Lebanon grass weaving uses materials like reeds, grasses, palm leaves and bamboo and canes. The raw materials are easily available and craftsmen turn the natural plant products into objects of various shapes and sizes to suit the necessity of the buyer. The main grass woven products of Lebanon are baskets, hats and mats.

Sparks and Brownies: Craft: Paper Weaving

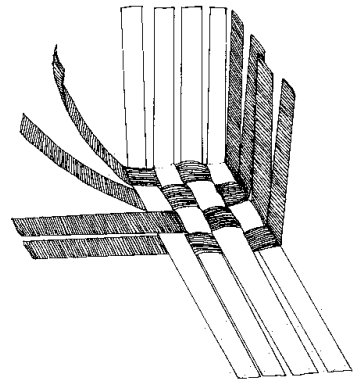
Materials:

- Thick paper or thin card (3 sheets of varying colours if desired)
- Scissors
- Pencils
- Ruler



Instructions:

1. Cut 8 long strips from the paper or card: 32 cm by 2 cm (12½" by 4/5") (you can use 4 strips of one colour and 4 of another colour)
2. Lay 4 of the strips side by side on a flat surface and weave in the remaining four. Make sure that the woven square is as tight as possible and that it is exactly in the middle of the strips.
3. Fold all the ends up to make the side spokes of the basket.
4. Now cut 4 more strips 34 cm by 2 cm (13½" by 4/5") and weave them in and out of the upright spokes. Start weaving each new strip at a different corner. (You can hold the strips in place as you work with paper clips)
5. To make the upright weaving easier, you can fold each strip into quarters and place them like squares over the spokes one at a time.
6. When all 4 strips have been woven in, fold down the ends of the upright spokes and tuck them into or fold them under the weaving beneath, on the outside of the basket.
7. A handle can now be added. Cut another long strip, 32 cm by 2 cm (12½" by 4/5"), and insert one end into the second square on one side of the basket and the other end into the third square on the opposite side of the basket. Fold round the ends until the handle is secure.



From: http://www.jamboree.freedom-in-education.co.uk/w's%20craft%20corner/paper_woven_basket.htm



Girl Guides
of Canada
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Guides, Pathfinders and Rangers: Craft: Woven Basket

Materials:

- 7/8" flat reed for stakes, weavers and rim
- 1/4" or smaller reed for lasher
- 10" Flat top D handle (any height works!)
- A pair of heavy duty shears
- Measuring tape
- Clothespins or clips
- Ruler or straightedge
- Awl (we recommend a bone awl)
- Small tub (for soaking reed).



Instructions:

Read all instructions carefully before you begin to weave your basket.

Step 1:

- Cut 7 horizontal stakes, each 34" long.
- Cut 8 vertical stakes, each 28" long.
- Mark the centers of all stakes on the rough side of the reed. Soak stakes and weavers until pliable.

Step 2:

- Lay 7 stakes horizontally on the table in front of you, rough sides up.
- Weave the handle in vertically in the over-under manner. Make sure the handle is OVER the center stake. (The center stake is on the outside of the handle).
- Weave in 4 horizontal stakes on each side of the handle, spacing evenly, in the over-under manner.
- Square up the base to about 10"x14".
- Gently upset all stakes.
- Begin weaving in the over-under, start-stop manner using 7/8" reed. Weave 6 rows.
- Trim a piece of 7/8" reed to about 1/2" or so and weave this final row. This is the rim row, and will be covered by the rim.

Step 3:

- Trim and tuck all stakes.
- If you wish to embellish the handle, use 1/4" flat oval reed. Anchor it, wrap in the manner you wish. We used a piece of 7/8" reed across the top to make a pattern (see photo).
- Apply inner & outer rims using 7/8" flat reed, clothes pinning in place.
- Lash securely using 1/4" reed. You can X-lash at the handle if you like.
- Stain the basket if desired.

From: <http://www.basketsofjoy.com/printer.aspx?p=122>