



Leather-n-Lace

A Dani Sue Creations Original
Designed by: Danielle Anderson



Materials:

12" Wooden slotted round base
1/2" FF Dyed Reed
3/8" FF Dyed Reed
1/4" FF Dyed Reed
#2 or #3 Dyed R Reed
2 15" Leather handles

Staves:

44 staves 10" long from 1/2" FF Dyed Reed
44 pieces of RR cut at 23" long for woven boarder

Finished Dimensions:

7.5" tall with a 42" circumference
Cut kits for 45"

Begin by marking the 4 center points on the base and wetting your staves. Make sure to insert all the staves with the rough side facing up. Insert 4 staves at the center points. Then divide your remaining staves (40) into 4 groups of 10 and insert each set into the empty sections on your base. Once I have inserted all the staves I count to confirm that there are 44 staves evenly distributed into the base.



Once staves are evenly distributed, you are ready to twine with #2 or #3 RR. There is no need for a step up at the end of these 2 rows.

Spray staves well, as this is the last time you will wet them, due to many colors on this basket.

This basket is woven with **continuous weave**, which means you must taper the beginning of your first row. Also, you will always change colors and sizes in the same general section of the basket. I use a **5-stave section** as my changing spot. I've marked the staves all the changes happened on in the picture to the right with the green and purple clip.



For this entire basket, you will weave over 2 and behind 1. You will begin to see your rows start to have a "stair stepping" pattern to them. To begin weaving you need to taper your first piece of reed like shown in the picture to the right. **Tip:** Using regular long nose scissors helps keep the taper long and consistent. I try to have a 2" taper each time I change sizes.

You can change colors as many times as you wish. If the size of reed changes, **you want to taper your reed to match the weaver you are changing from.** For example, if you are weaving with 1/4" but want to change to 3/8" you want to taper your 3/8" reed about 2" or so to match the 1/4". See picture below.



Keep weaving continuously until you are pleased with the height of your basket. Make sure to taper the end of your last row in that same section where you have made all your changes. This ensures that your rim sits evenly.

When you are finished with your over 2 behind 1 weaving, twine 2 rows. Make sure to step up at the end of each row.

Tuck each stave on this basket into 1 or 2 rows.

Insert your loops for your woven border on each stave. Notice in the picture to the right that each stave gets 2 RR tails. You can make the loops as long or short as you like.



Please see **Bright Expectations instructions** below for directions on the Braided rim. Make sure to check out their website! Becky does stunning work and I'm privileged to be in the basket family with her. All other copyright rules by both **Dani Sue Creations** and **Bright Expectations Baskets** apply.

The **leather handles** will be the very last thing that goes on. Weave them into the finished basket with the matching size reed on the basket. I like to add them as an overlay at the end. That way if anything happens with the handles or the weight of your basket, it can be repaired easily.

I'm extra proud of this basket, as it's the first one Dani Sue Anderson ever designed ❤️ I hope you enjoy it as much as I still do!

Be sure to visit www.DaniSueCreations.com for the latest basket creations for classes, patterns, convention information and more. Please like us on FB under Dani Sue Creations. Don't hesitate to email or call with any questions regarding permission to distribute this pattern, or any other DSC products at danisuecreations@gmail.com or (502) 797-9988.

Soak your #2 round reed until it is pliable and can be easily bent – but is not mushy. Remember to keep reed damp while weaving.



Cut 32 pieces of #2 reed at 24" in length (or one for each spoke). Place one piece of round reed under the twining on each spoke with about 10" above the rim. It is easier to thread your round reed UP through the twining and use a small packer to open the space.

When each piece of round reed is inserted it should resemble the photo to the right.



Hair-pinning the reed is illustrated below. It simply means threading each piece of round reed under the twining and centering it giving the reed the U shape of an old-fashioned hairpin.



Begin with any piece of round reed, going over one spoke (and the round reed placed there), and then up beside the next round reed (photo above left). Even up the ends of your hair-pinned round reed (center photo) and then gently pull them up until you have a small U under your twining (above right). I've adjusted mine to just at the bottom of the second row down of 1/4" FO weaver. If you have the U too tight, you will lose the decorative effect. If it's too loose, it can be easy to catch on as the basket is used and could be broken.



Continue around the basket in the same manner, hair-pinning each piece of #2 round reed. Each time you will carry the reed over one spoke (and the piece of round reed placed there) and then insert it next to (left side of, working counterclockwise around the basket) the round reed on the 2nd spoke over.



After you complete the process with each piece of round reed, double check that they are all scalloped – the left side of the U is under the adjacent round reed, and the right side is over.

Now is your chance to adjust the U's and make sure that they are even in height on the basket also. **You will NOT be able to come back to this point later and adjust them.**



Check to see if your round reed needs spritzed with water. ***Do not let the round reed dry out and risk breakage.*** Select any two pieces of round reed, place them behind the next spoke over and out to the front. Keep the round reed pieces flat and do not allow them to twist. Work your way around the basket in the same manner ending with the final pieces placed through the first opening you made (photo above right).

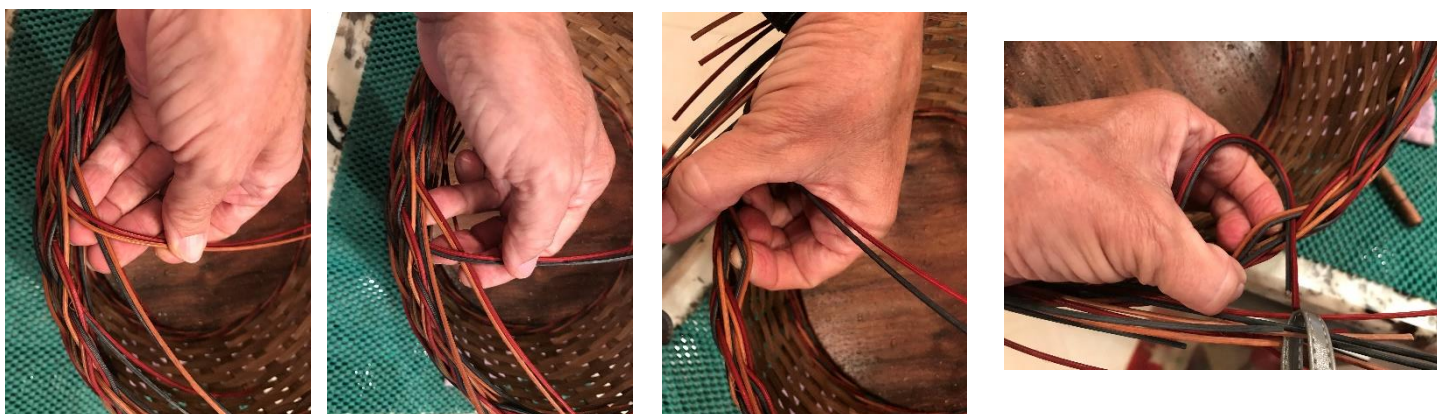


Gently adjust the round reed so that is positioned in an even height above the basket rim. Do this by gently pulling on the pair of round reed pieces in a somewhat 'horizontal to the rim' direction while running your other hand gently over the top.

Check to make sure that no two pieces of round that are twisted and that they lay flat up against each other without gaps.



The next step will take the reed back to the inside of the basket. Begin by choosing a pair of reed pieces and gently pulling up on them creating an opening (yellow arrow, photo above left). Taking the next pair of reed pieces behind the raised pair, insert them through the opening and gently pull them to the inside of the basket. When you reach your starting point (middle photo) insert the pair under the reed from the initial set completing the pattern. Again, adjust and tighten the reed from this step ensuring that pieces are again not twisted and that they lay flat and tight to the rim. *You are not trying to achieve a decorative arch above the rim in this step.* Arching the reed will cause the rim to be somewhat loose and it will not have the integrity that a rim needs.



Now you will work **INSIDE** the basket. For the next step choose a pair of reed pieces and working counterclockwise again, place it **UNDER** the pair next to it and bring it up. Continue around the basket (make sure to get the next pair over each time) and end by opening the space where you began and bringing the last pair of reed pieces through that opening (photo above right). Twisting the pieces of reed on this step above is completely expected.



Once again, gently pull and adjust the reed to make sure this step is tight and even against the inside of the basket's rim.

As with each step of this rim technique, it is most difficult to make adjustments later. Be happy with the look before you move on.



For the final step, take two pairs of reed pieces. Place the pair on the left **OVER** the pair on the right and bend them down towards the basket base. Continue around the basket, each time taking a pair of reed pieces over the next pair and down. Open the space where you began to end this step with the final pair of round reeds. Adjust the tension and once more make sure it is tight against the basket inner wall.

Technically, the braided rim is now finished. But since this was a larger sized basket, and in order to achieve an even more stable and sturdy rim, I opted to repeat the final step with one more row of crossing a reed pair over the pair next to it and down towards the basket base.





After the reed has dried, trim the round reed close on the underside of the rim.

Now stand back and admire your handiwork. You did great!

Don't you just love it (NOT) when you get done weaving a basket only to find that the reed is different colors?? Yep, that happened to me on this basket! And it was from the same pound of smoked reed. Grrrrr!

I clipped and singed the fiber-like hairs from the basket and stained it with Weavers spray stain to give the basket a more finished look and to provide protection to the reed.

And I'll just have to learn to love my two-toned smoked reed basket!



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