

The Reed Reader by Bright Expectations

Basket Weaving Patterns * Ready Made Baskets * Custom Created Baskets

Craft Shows - Love 'em or Hate 'em

October 2015
Volume 4

If you love basket weaving, chances are you are either overwhelmed with your creations in your own home, have gifted them to everyone on your Christmas list (a few years running), or participate in at least one art and craft show during the year. While I have a couple that I really enjoy doing each year, I experienced one that was the pits. The fine folks who attended were looking for the \$5 deal (of which I had none). I mean seriously ... what are you going to hand make and sell for \$5? Most people are very appreciative of the hard work that goes into each piece, but you will inevitably hear "\$50??? You can buy a basket at the dollar store for a buck!". How do you respond? Most shows will kindly ask you to leave when you exhibit physical violence.



In next month's issue of The Reed Reader, I'll talk a bit more about craft shows and how to select a good one. Look for ideas to display your baskets to be included. I'm sure a lot of you have photos of your vendor booths, and I'd love to share them with the readers. If you have pictures, comments, or advice for selling at these events, please [email me](#).

You can find me at:

www.brightexpectations.etsy.com

www.facebook.com/BrightExpectations

Or by email ...

beckybechtel@gmail.com

What's New this Month >>

"FREE" Patterns!

Articles and Tidbits >>

Reed Storage

Next Month >>

Art and Craft Shows

Bright Expectations LLC

is weaving in either
Mt. Vernon, IL or Naples, FL

Becky Bechtel

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Featured Basketry Suppliers

Basket Weaving Supplies

Home of Quality Basket Weaving Supplies, Kits and Patterns

www.basketweavingsupplies.com

There are many [free patterns](#) on their website!

Magnolia Baskets

We specialize in space dyed reed and cane, but also produce solid dyed reed and cane, as well as natural reed, cane, and sea grass - plus classes.

magnolia-baskets.com

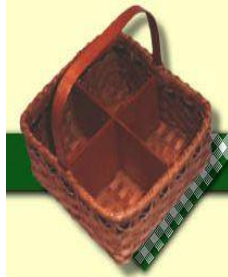
Are you a supplier or vendor of basketry related items? I would love to feature your store or webpage here. If you can provide a discount to "The Reed Reader's" followers that would be great! Even a small discount for a limited time can encourage a new shopper.

It's October - It's time for some free patterns!

October might be my favorite month for a lot of reasons. First, I LOVE autumn. It's my favorite season. The leaves are turning and gently falling (don't think about raking, that spoils the mood). You can pull out your favorite baggy sweatshirt and jeans and go for a walk without sweating. The pumpkin patch is open and apples are in season. The windows are open and the evenings have a chill in the air. Morning coffee time in my porch swing requires a cozy throw around my shoulders. I have a new grandbaby due this month. And, it's my birthday month. So in honor of October, it's time for some FREE patterns! The links are highlighted in blue taking you to the (did I mention) FREE pattern. I have made every attempt to give the original pattern author and contributing source credit. I apologize profusely if the information is incomplete or inaccurate. These are simply patterns that are easily accessible via the internet that I have compiled into one grouping for your convenience. I hope you find an awesome basket pattern that inspires you to weave it!



[2005 Odyssey Vase](#)
by Suzette Humer
courtesy of Country Seat



[Divided Basket](#)
Author Unknown



[Colorful Market](#)
courtesy of
Baskets of Joy



[Country Flower Vase](#)
courtesy of Joanna's
Collections



[Lines of Autumn](#)
by Jennifer Rhodes
courtesy of
BasketWeavingSupplies.com



[Double Wine](#)
by Miyuki@With
These Hands



[Berry Basket](#)
Nancy Jacobs



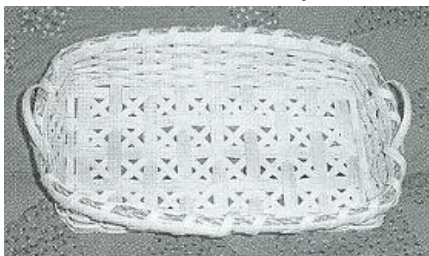
[Holiday Basket](#)
Author Unknown



[Indian Corn](#)
Author Unknown



[Standing Snowman](#)
Author Unknown



[Loaves and Letters](#)
Courtesy of NorEsta Cane & Reed



[Pretty in Plaid](#)
Courtesy of Gina's Baskets



[Woven Heart](#)
by Joyce Lantz
courtesy of
Basket Makers Catalog



[Mule Skinner](#)
by Beth Hester
courtesy of
Basket Maker's
Catalog



[Around Town Tote](#)
courtesy of NC Basket Works

*Lara Lawrence has generously offered
to share a couple of fall patterns with
us (shown on next page).*

Thank you, Lara!

SCARECROW BASKET by LARA LAWRENCE



8 x 12 Sharp D Handle (I use EZ WEAVE)

Cut 7 - 1/2" FF stakes each 17" in length and place spaced evenly across the handle.

Fold the stakes up around the handle base and begin weaving.

2 rows - 11/64" FO (cut approximately 21" in length)

9 rows - 1/2" FF (cut approximately 22" in length) Each row slightly decreases in length due to handle shape.

2 rows - 11/64" FO (cut approximately 20" in length)

1 row - 7 mm FF (this is the rim row) (cut approximately 20" in length)

Rim the basket with 2 pieces of 1/2" FF reed (cut approximately 20" in length)

Lash the basket with 11/64" FO.

FOR THE DECORATIONS:

Cut a rectangle shape from burlap (I use green or brown) for the hat. Fold it over to make a cone shape and glue the edges down with craft glue. Glue raffia onto front top of basket for "hair". Glue the burlap hat onto top front of basket above "hair". Glue on two button eyes, a triangular shape piece of orange burlap for the nose, and a small bow at the bottom edge of basket. I use rusty wire to make the mouth. Add pip berry and decorate as you please.

LIGHTED WOVEN WREATH by LARA LAWRENCE



Styrofoam Wreath (12" preferred)

#6 Round Reed

1/4" FF Reed

Wood Candle Cup with attached Wood Pin

Battery Powered Candle

Pip Berry and Bow made from Homespun, Burlap, or Fabric Ribbon

Cut 3 pieces of #6 round reed for the ribs of the wreath by laying one piece on the front near the top, one near the middle, and one near the bottom (inside) edge of the wreath. Cut these about 2" longer where they meet. Secure the ribs to the front of the wreath using a large cable tie, metal pins, or tape. This will be removed after you weave some.

Begin weaving with 1/4" flat by going over and under the ribs and wrapping around the back of the wreath. You have to overlap your weave slightly to keep the weaving on the top of the wreath wider than at the bottom. I do my overlap on the back side. This will let the reed sit slightly over the previous woven piece. This will allow your weaving to correctly meet up when you are finished. Continue wrapping being sure to keep the top coming out further than the bottom. Pack as you go.

Place an angle cut on both ends of the three ribs to meet together and finish your weaving. This may be tricky but it does not have to look perfect because this is where the bow will go. Insert the candle down into the wreath and secure with glue. Add pip berry, tie on, and bow. Insert the candle and enjoy your wreath.

LARA LAWRENCE PHILIPPI, WV weave4fun@yahoo.com

It's Out of Control! Reed Storage Tips

You've opened it and now it's completely out of control. You have clipped the ribbons that bind and unleashed the beast. It's never, ever going to go back into that handy, tightly wound, and compact circle. What do you do now - because you don't just have one opened - you have 25 opened. I've gathered many ideas from weavers across the country and I hope there's a tip here that helps you organize your weaving studio (I love calling it that. It makes my windowless basement weaving nook sound so upscale.)

Whatever method of storage you choose, keep your reed DRY. Storing damp reed will cause it to mildew and mold. Extreme heat will also cause your reed to become brittle.

My favorite is a pegboard with hooks. Then I can see at a glance what sizes and colors I have. Old coat hangers from yard sales work well too. Also, wood coat / hat racks are a good idea. *Patricia DeMatteo*

I store mine in big Rubbermaid bins with lids, labeling them on top and side with duct tape. It keeps the reed dust and moisture free. *Kay Marquardt*

I use the rolling carts on wheels, they have three drawers and are semi-clear. *Adele Lankford*

I put Silica packets in every bin. The little packets are free and found in new shoes, purses, etc. *Towanda Brown*

I use cable ties putting one around the ends at the beginning and then a few more where the shorter pieces are. I may have 4-5 ties for the length of the reed. You can tighten the ties as reed is used. *Gale Brom*

I rewind and secure with little girl hair ties (the ones with balls on each end) and pony tail ties for the even end of the bundle. *Mary Jo Heineman*

Velcro cable ties work great and label the ends with key tags. I then hang coils from metal shower curtain hooks on pegboard. *Sandy Salada*

I use pipe cleaners to tie up the reed. They are inexpensive, reusable, and come in bright colors. *Karen Burdette*

I recoil the reed and put it in plastic grocery bags. Label the bags and hang them on either pegboard, a hanging rod, or basket tree. *Karen Buskirk*

I use five gallon buckets with lids. Mark each one on the outside with size. They stack beautifully and are easy to carry. Use silica gel water absorbing packets in each bucket. *Carol Zeller*

I use under bed totes that roll out easily, out of site - but easy access. *Judy Ronan*

I use office file boxes or ream paper boxes. Both have handle holes for easy carrying and are made of cardboard so the reed breathes. *Anette Meier*

I purchased an IV pole at a yard sale and it works perfectly for holding "in use" reed. As the pole is adjustable, the center can be unscrewed, pole let down to working level, insert reed then push pole to its full extension, and then reed hangs down for easy accessibility. *Faye M. Bushey*

Put furring strips horizontally in the room and drill holes at an angle to fit dowel rods into. Hang reed according to size. *Annette Barnard*

There are several baskets that I make that require short pieces of reed. I cut the tops off 2-litre bottles (or milk gallon jugs) and label them. When I have a short piece left over, I measure and trim it to desired length, then drop in the appropriate bottle. When I'm ready to make those baskets, I just have to count out the number of pieces I need. *Kim Girard*

I have a narrow closet in which I placed several tension shower rods. Some rods are for unopened coils and some for "open and using". *Sue Ann Allen*





Pauline Hogan Asbury's Plastic Bags, Wire Shelving, and "Behind the Shower Curtain" Bin Storage



Cheryl Dixon's Peg Boards & Shelving



Karen Johnson's Wire Shelving



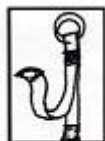
Andrea Herman's Mesh Bags



Donna Markham's Drawer Storage



Sarah Parson's Reed Hangers from Lawn Chair Webbing



[Reed Organizer](#)
Available to Purchase
from Noresta



Patricia DiMatteo's Coat Rack



Emily Sommer's Plastic Drawers & Weaving Space



And mine ... I keep my current most used hanging from a rod by shower hooks over my weaving space. You can see I'm in an "autumn" color frenzy. I also monitor humidity since I weave my workspace is in a basement.

WEAVING EVENTS

OCTOBER, 2015

14th - 18th: Michigan Basketweavers Annual Convention "Autumn Weavings".
www.michiganbasketmakers.com/convention2015_book.pdf or [click here](#).

16th - 18th: Basket Weavers Guild of Oklahoma's 16th Annual Weavers Weekend in Shawnee, OK.
www.okbasketweaversguild.com/WeaversWeekend.html or [click here](#).

23rd - 25th: "Weaving Your Cares Behind" Retreat in Bedford, PA. www.bedfordbasketguild.com/contact.html or [click here](#).

NOVEMBER, 2015

6th - 8th: 2015 WVBA Convention - "Aloha Weavers" in Clarksburg, West Virginia.
wvbasketweaversassoc.com/conventionnew/Brochure2015.pdf or [click here](#).

JANUARY, 2016

21st - 24th: Texas Basket Weavers Assoc. "Kickin' It Up in Dallas". texasbasketweavers.com or [click here](#).

27th - 31st: Northwest Basket Weavers Retreat Workshop "Weave in Winter". www.nwbasketweavers.org or [click here](#).

FEBRUARY, 2016

5th - 7th: Georgia Basketry Association's Annual Convention "Baskets with Friends". www.georgiabasketry.com or [click here](#).

14th - 20th: Basket Weaving Cruise leaving Port Everglades in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida aboard the Celebrity Silhouette ship and stopping in Puerto Rico, St. Kitts, and St. Maarten. Please, please take me!
www.basketweavingcruise.com or [click here](#).

26th - 28th: Wildwood Basketry Guild's "Winter Weave" in Mentor, Ohio. www.winterweave.com or [click here](#).

MARCH, 2016

TBA: LLBWA Spring Fling at Palos Park, Illinois. www.llbwa.com/events.htm or [click here](#).

17th - 20th: NCBA Convention "Dream Weavers" in Durham, North Carolina. www.ncbasketmakers.com or [click here](#).

18th - 20th: LABG Retreat in Julian, California. Registration has begun. www.labasketryguild.org or [click here](#).

APRIL, 2016

14th - 16th: Stateline Friends Weaving Retreat in Richmond, Indiana. Registration begins early October.
www.statelinefriends.com or [click here](#).

15th - 17th: "Weavin' Up North 2016" at the Finnish Language Village Salolampi in Bemidji, Minnesota.
http://nationalbasketry.org/events/weavin-up-north-2016 or [click here](#).

JUNE, 2016

TBA: LLBWA Starved Rock Weaving Day in Utica, IL. www.llbwa.com/events.htm or [click here](#).

JULY, 2016

TBA: Kentucky Basket Associations 20th Convention. www.kentuckybasketassociation.org or [click here](#).

TBA: Missouri Basketweavers Guild 25th Annual Convention. www.basketweavers.org/convention.html or [click here](#).

20th-23rd: Tennessee Basketry Convention in Alcoa, TN. Contact Fran Sorrell at 901-409-8649 or fwsorrell@ael.com.

There are many guilds, weaving groups, and clubs across the country. There might be one near you.

To see a listing of guilds by state with contact and convention information, please refer to this listing provided by The Country Seat. [Click here](#).



Pattern Library - Available in my [Etsy Shop](#)

Clicking on any basket name will connect you to the pattern listing.



["Beatrice"](#)



["Makayla"](#)



["Wyoming"](#)



["Yasmine"](#)



["Cassie"](#)



["Sue"](#)



["Harbor"](#)



["Gabbie"](#)



["Kelsey"](#)



["Jaclyn"](#)



["Zoey"](#)



["Fiona"](#)



["Darcy"](#)



["Adele"](#)



["Betsy"](#)



["Emma"](#)



["Gloria"](#)



["Patsy"](#)



["Olivia"](#)



["Valerie"](#)



["Randa"](#)



["Jenna"](#)



["Lucy"](#)



["Reba"](#)



["Isabella"](#)