

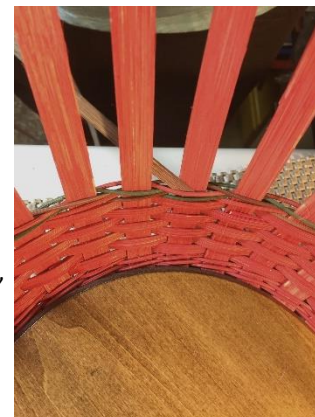


This tutorial is designed to teach the French Randing technique which places weavers in a diagonal pattern while weaving a basket. It is normally easier to start with a base row of twining, triple twining, or as shown in the picture to the left – triple twining with arrow (another tutorial is available for this). The row of twining will allow you to seat each piece of reed for randing into the round reed which helps hide the raw ends of reed plus will help keep the reed from slipping.

This instruction is for a right handed weaver – you may reverse the technique if need be.

Some patterns and instruction will provide a specific length for your randing pieces. I prefer to use a longer piece of reed and simply cut it appropriately as I place it. Either is acceptable and it's just a matter of whichever is easiest for the weaver. I also prefer to rand with DRY reed until the last few pieces (see note later on).

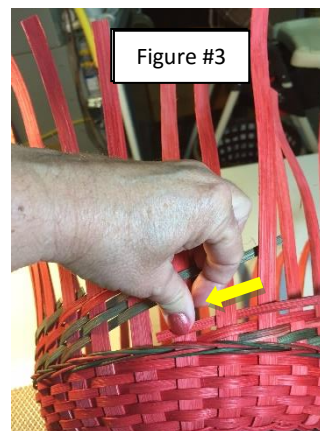
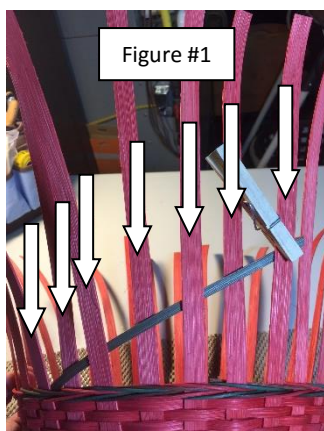
To begin randing, insert the end of your reed into the row(s) of twining on the INSIDE of the basket, behind a spoke. The photo on the right is looking to the inside of the basket to show placement. For this instruction we will be using a "seven spoke" randing or going under/over a total of seven spokes. The spoke that you place the reed behind is "Spoke #1".



Weaving from the outside of your basket, counting the spoke the reed is seated behind as Spoke #1, weave over / under for a total of seven spokes, at a diagonal angle. Cut your reed on the right side of the 7<sup>th</sup> spoke. It helps to clip the first randing reed in place (Figure #1). Once a few pieces are placed, clipping it is no longer necessary. You will be able to slightly adjust the randing and pack it down once all pieces are placed.

Your next randing piece of reed (blue arrow) is placed on TOP of the first piece (green arrow). You will be working in a *clockwise* direction (Figure #2).

Continue placing randing pieces of reed around the basket until you near the last few spokes. The last few randing pieces are a little more difficult to place as the spokes have randing pieces already on the upper part. It will be easier to weave these pieces back into the twining rather than seat them in the twining first. Note the direction of the yellow arrow on Figure #3 showing that I wove over / under a few of the spokes near to the twining row before placing the end into the arrow triple twining, going under the first placed randing pieces.





Tuck the end of the randing piece into the twining. Notice on the photo to the left that after this piece of randing, there is still one more piece to go (turquoise arrow). EACH spoke should have a piece of randing that begins behind it. The last piece is the hardest to place. It is helpful if the last pieces of reed are slightly damp and pliable to allow them to be manipulated in the over / under weaving without breaking or cracking them.

Once all the pieces of randing are in place, use your packing tool or bone awl to gently snug the randing reeds close together.

Trim your reed ends evenly inside the basket.

To create the arrow affect in your French Randing, you will now place reed pieces in the same manner only in the opposite direction. Choose a spoke to begin on and place the reed in front of the reed end of your previous randing, and behind a spoke. Notice the arrow in the photo to the right shows the new randing piece is on TOP. Be sure to consistently place each new randing piece on top as you go around the basket. You will be again going under / over a total of seven spokes.



Continue in a *counter clockwise* direction this time always placing the randing pieces on top of the previous one until you reach the last few spokes.

Again you will find it easiest to weave through the spokes that have randing spokes already on them and then seat your reed (picture to the left).

Place your final diagonal reeds making sure that you now have a piece starting behind each spoke. Gently adjust and pack your reed. Your arrow randing is now complete.



Again, trim your reed ends inside your basket. Cutting them at an angle may help them be less obtrusive inside the basket.

On the basket in this tutorial, I chose to weave another row of arrow triple twining to set apart and highlight the French Randing.

When finished this basket will have a handy swing handle on it. The pattern in its entirety is called "Noelle" and can be purchased from my website or Etsy shop.



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