

5/2020

Basket Weaver's Cabin Fever Reliever  
COVID-19 Shelter in Place Project  
Laura Lee Zanger  
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All Levels



**DIMENSIONS:** 6" Diameter x 5" High

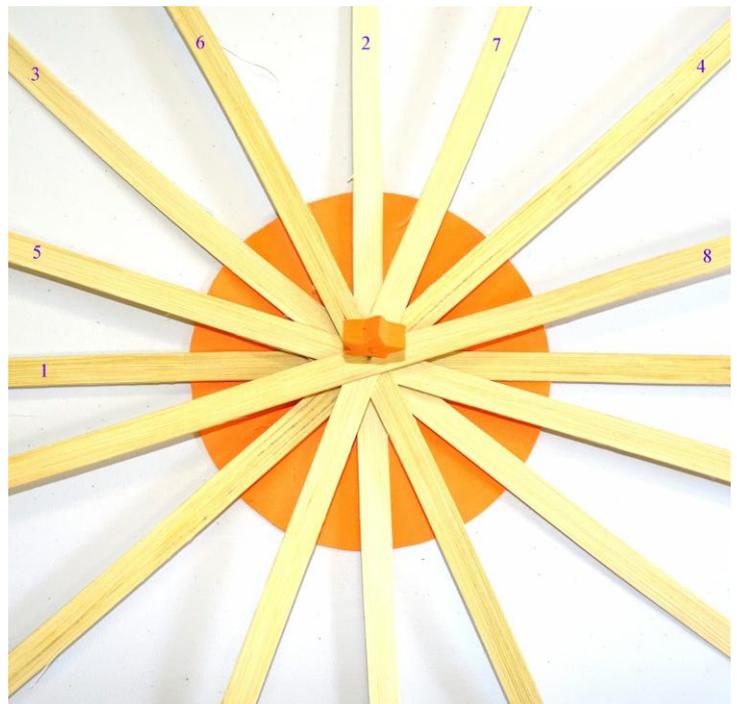
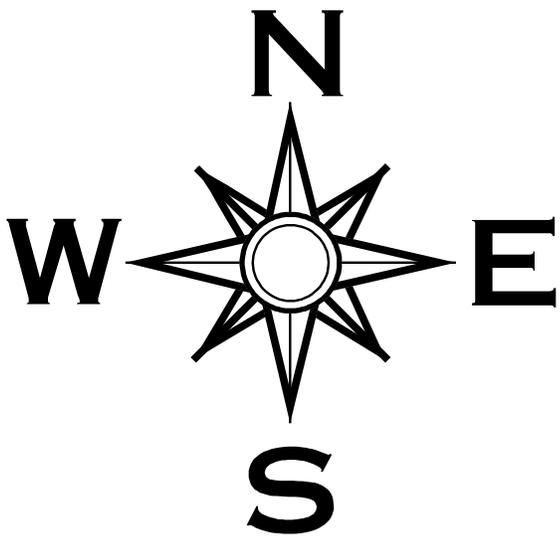
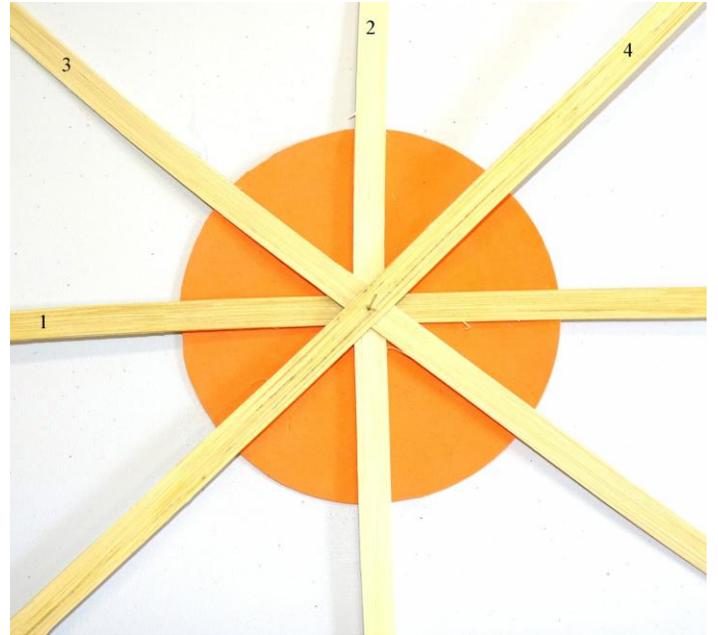
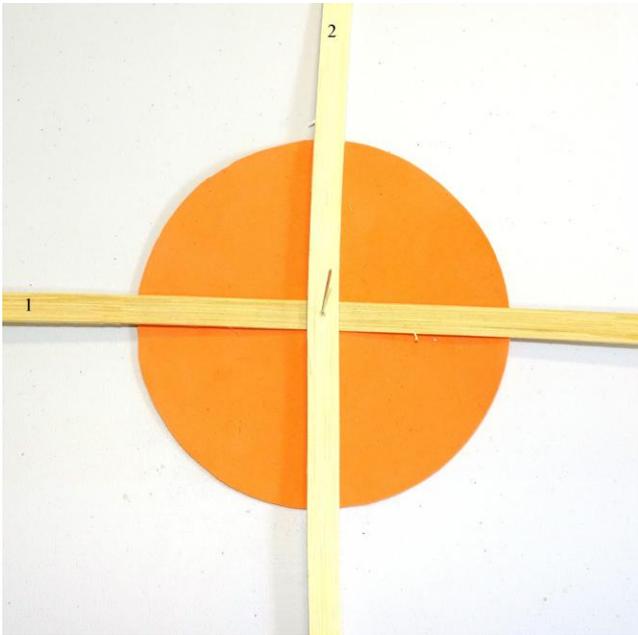
**MATERIALS:**

8, 1/2" Flat Reed @ 24" for Spokes  
1, Piece 1/2" Flat Reed @ 24" for Rim Insert  
#2 Round Reed, 2 Very Long Pieces  
Weavers 9 Rows 3/8" Flat Reed @ 24" Each  
1/4" or 7mm Dyed Flat Reed Approx. 30" Each for 7 Rows of Curls

This is a very colorful and cheery basket. It is made with basic techniques and can be used as a gift when filled with cookies or candy. The curls are made perfectly and consistently with the use of the eraser end of a pencil.

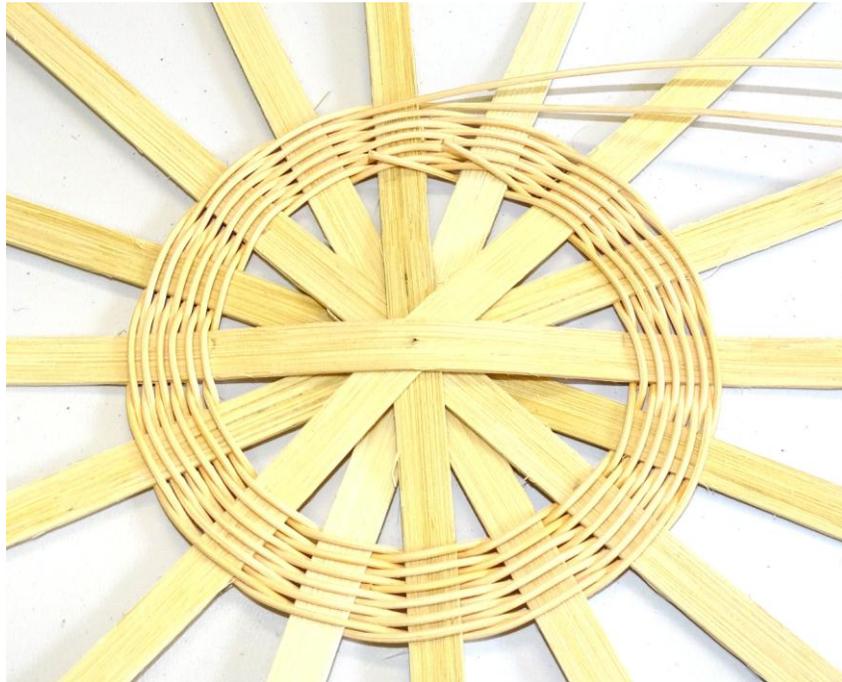
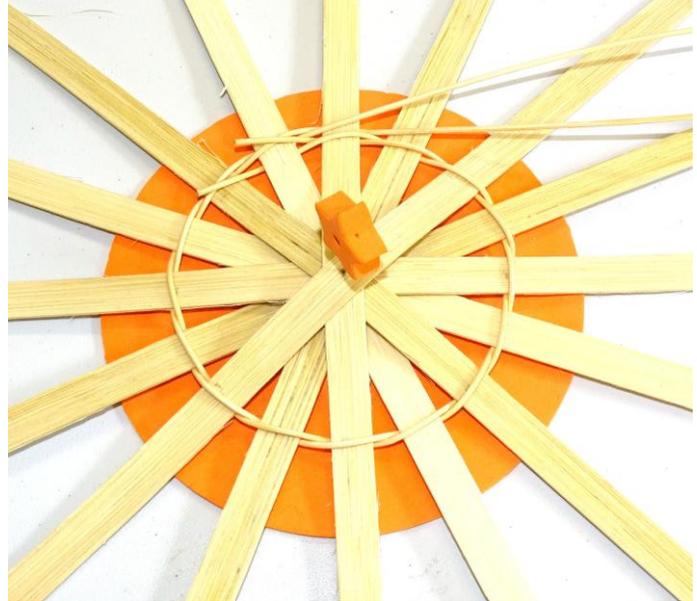
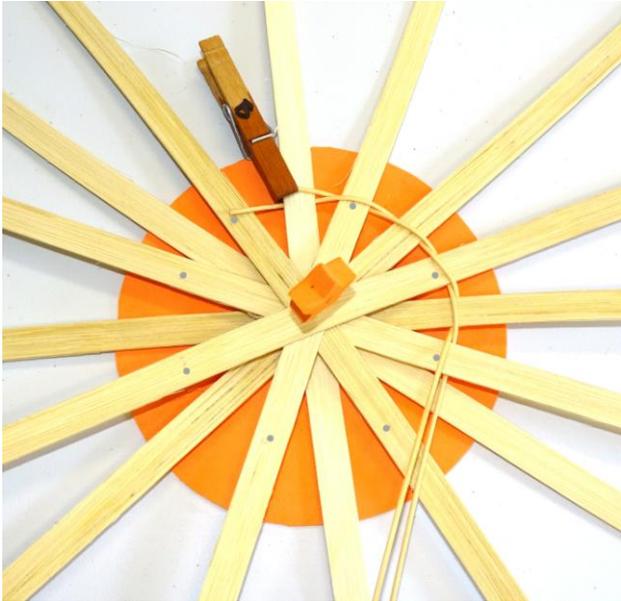
**BASE:**

Mark the centers of the 1/2" spokes on the rough side. Using a pin to support the base, center the spokes over a T-pin with the rough side up in the following order 1-8 as shown. I lay them out using the idea of a compass and using a round base gadget. The first spoke is placed W-E and the second spoke is placed N-S like a cross. The third and fourth spokes are placed from NW and NE like an "X". Then spokes 5-8 are placed on the pin as shown, one between each of the other four spokes. Cover the pin with an eraser or piece of sponge so you don't get pricked while weaving. Adjust the spokes. Measure out from the pin and place a 2" mark on every other spoke.



## TWINING:

Take a two very long pieces of #2 round reed and soak them in water for several minutes. Beginning over spokes #6 and #2, twine one row along the 2" mark and pause to make any adjustment to the shape of your circle. Continue twining until your base measures 6", approximately 6 rows.



End the weaving by cutting and tucking the ends. Remove the pin and dampen the perimeter of your base. Using a packing tool, score the spokes close to the twining. Fold them upward.

## SIDES:

Use the 3/8" flat reed to weave 9 rows of start and stop over/under weaving. After 3 rows of weaving press the base upward to give your basket a flat bottom. I wish it were that easy to flatten my bum!



## MATCH-STICK BORDER:

Soak the rim insert and the ends of the spokes. Massage the wet spokes by rolling them over your finger near the last row of weaving.

**STEP 1** Place the insert inside the basket with a bit of an overlap. Press it against the spokes and pin it in place so that it fits (not too tight and not too loose . . . just right like Goldilocks). Leave a 1/4" space between rim insert and the last row of weaving.

**STEP 2** Take each spoke and bend it over the rim insert and bring it back to the front on the right under the rim insert. Continue until all the spokes are in that position. Make certain the top is level. Make adjustments now.



**STEP 3** Take a spoke diagonally across one spoke to the right and cut and tuck it to hide under the second spoke. Repeat all around your rim.



### CURLS:

There are only seven rows of curls. Make your curls beginning on the second row and work your way up to row eight. Begin making the curls by tucking one end behind a spoke, smooth side up. Loop it in a clockwise motion to form a curl and run the end under the next spoke, smooth side up. When you bring it out from behind that spoke repeat the process all the way around your basket. Use the eraser end of a pencil to shape each curl for a consistent size. End each row by hiding the tail under the spoke where you began. Continue until all the other rows have curls. Each row takes about 1.5 of the circumference in length for each row of curls.



Trim and oil or stain your basket.