

# Double-walled Cherokee Basket

## Supplies needed

reeds (#4 round), cutter or scissors, tub of water or sink

## Directions

### 1. Soak Reeds

The reeds need to soak at least 30 minutes before weaving.

### 2. Cut Spines

Cut 11 pieces of reed for spines. Length depends on size of basket. For your first basket try 24-30". The size of the basket is determined by the size of the spines. Using 24" spines your basket will be about 4-6" tall.

### 3. Divide and Cross Spines

Hold 5 spines horizontally and 6 spines vertically. They should criss-cross in the middle.

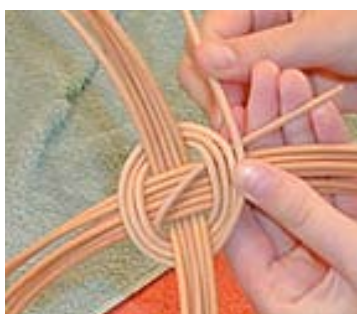


### 4. Get Your First Weaver

A weaver is a long piece of reed. Place one end of weaver diagonally across top spines (see picture above). Leave about 1/2" hanging over.

### 5. Bind Spines Together

Begin by wrapping weaver counter-clockwise starting with going under bottom reeds to your right, then over reeds on top (see below). Continue going around about three times, alternating under and over. Your spines should now stay together.



**NOTE: Reed must remain moist so it doesn't crack/break so hold it under water every so often.**

### 6. Separate Spines Into Pairs

From now on weaving will be over and under **pairs** of spines. Continue with the same weaver as you work the spines into



pairs. You are now forming the inside bottom of your basket. Try to keep your weaving tight as you go.

*TIP: Sometimes it helps to hold it down on a flat surface while working on the bottom to keep it from curling up.*



### 7. Continue Weaving/ Shaping

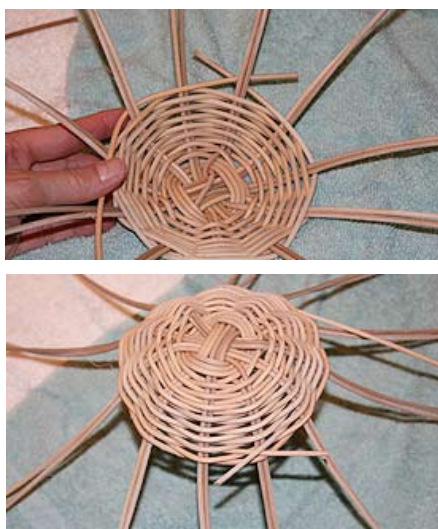
You might find it easier to hold your basket upside down while shaping the sides.



# Double-walled Cherokee Basket *continued*

## 8. Changing Weavers

Slightly overlap your weavers, you can trim them a little later. Most likely you are still working on the inside of your basket so leave weaver ends on outside because they will be concealed inside your double wall.



*TIP: Before you begin the outside wall trim all your weaver ends so they are long enough to stay secure but short enough to weave over.*

## 9. Fold Spines Over and Start Outside Wall

Cross spines as you fold them over. (See photos for visual help.) Tuck the last spine through the first. You will now weave the outside wall of your basket.



## 10. Continue to Weave Outside Wall

Continue with the over and under weaving, just like before. Try to keep your weaving tight as you go.



## 11. Changing Weavers

Again, slightly overlap your weavers. This time trim and tuck weaver ends on inside so they will be concealed.

**REMEMBER: Reed must remain moist so it doesn't crack or break. Every now and then let it soak for a few minutes.**

## 12. Finish Outside Wall

Stop weaving when outside wall is as long or a little longer than inside wall. Spines should still be at least 1½ to 2" long. If spines are longer trim all off evenly.



## 13. Finish Basket

Cross spines as you fold them (just like when you started your outside wall) and tuck them under.



## Resources

**Reed (we used #4):**  
H.H. Perkins Co.  
[www.hhperkins.com](http://www.hhperkins.com)

**Black walnut for dye:**  
Baskets of Joy  
[www.basketsofjoy.com](http://www.basketsofjoy.com)