

BASKETRY MERIT BADGE

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BASKETRY

- The first containers that Humans made were baskets
- Basketry is the weaving or sewing of certain fibrous materials, such as reeds, pine needles, straw, animal hair, grasses, vines and others into a three-dimensional item.
- The earliest references we have of basket making are from Neolithic times as cave sites in Israel, Iran and Turkey. Some dating to over 8000 years ago!
- However, because baskets are made of organic materials, we think that making baskets goes back even further, we just do not have any proof



SAFETY FIRST!

- You can use a pocketknife or scissors to cut your reeds, however you must follow proper Totin' Chip Protocols
- Handle your blade carefully
- Cut away from your body
- If cutting from a branch or shoots, brace your hand against the tree and cut diagonally to encourage the plant to regrow



SAFETY FIRST

- If a minor cut or scrape occurs, use proper first aid procedures to ensure you are safe.
- If you cut yourself severely, get help!
- Basketball is not a dangerous hobby, but ensuring good safety skills is always important.



A SAFE WORK AREA

- Review this safety list before beginning a project!
- When cutting, focus on the task
- Keep materials well-organized and pick up any scraps so you do not slip
- Never play in your craft space
- When walking, keep scissors pointed down and away from others
- Keep your tools clean and sharp
- Store your tools in a safe place away from children
- Knives and scissors should never be thrown



TYPES OF BASKETS

- There are many types of basket, and nearly as many variations as there are cultures. We are going to focus on Four of them
- Plaited
- Coiled
- Ribbed
- Wicker

PLAITED BASKET

- The plaited basket is created with flat strips of reed passing over and under flat stakes, giving the basket an interwoven look



COILED BASKET

- Coiled baskets have no skeleton or frame. An inner core of pine needles or other material is wrapped with a soft flexible materials such as sinew. The coils are stacked and sewn together in horizontal rows.



RIBBED BASKET

- The Ribbed Basket features round or oval shaped reeds used to create a sturdy skeleton. Flat or round reeds are woven around the skeleton to create the basket



WICKER BASKET

- Wicker baskets use any round reed or flexible material that is woven into a rigid framework





TYPES OF WEAVES

- There are several types of weaves as well
- Plain Weave – Also called ‘Over-Under’ weave is done with rigid stakes or spokes and the weave goes one-under and one-over as the pattern. Spokes and stakes are more rigid and thicker reeds. ‘Weaver-Reeds’ are smaller and more pliable.
- Continuous Weave – Occurs when using a Plain Weave over an odd number of stakes. It is not done one row at a time but continues with another ‘weaver-reed’ added when more length is needed.



TYPES OF WEAVES

- Twill Weave – This method of weaving involves the weaver passing over or under two or more stakes or spokes at a time.
- Twining – This weave, also called pairing, involves two weavers, each alternately twisting over and under consecutive spokes.



THE ROUND BASKET



**Basketry Merit
Badge Series**
The Basic Round Basket



THE SQUARE BASKET

**Basketry Merit
Badge Series**
The 3" Square Basket



THE CAMPSTOOL / SEAT FRAME

**Basketry Merit
Badge Series**
The Basic Seat Frame



END OF DAY 1

Homework:

By our next meeting on August 31, complete Requirements 1, 2 and 3.

Be Prepared to present all 3 of your baskets on August 31!