

All Around Town Tote

BY Jenn Rhodes

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Materials:

[½ FF – stakes/weavers](#)

[7mmFO – stakes/weavers/lashing](#)

[#3RR – weave and chase](#)

[1/4FO dyed – weavers](#)

[1/2FF dyed – weavers](#)

[5/8FO – rims](#)

[Seagrass – rim filler](#)

[Shaker tape – handles \(2 yards\)](#)

[8x12 elliptical oval wood base](#)



Measures: 10x13x12.5H

Cut 24 stakes from 1/2F 14" long
Cut 24 stakes from 7MM flat oval 14" Long

On the 24 ½ flat stakes – take time to determine the bad side of the reed. Divide the base into quarters with the ½ flat, then insert 5 ½ flat stakes into each quarter. Insert the stakes with the bad side of the reed up.



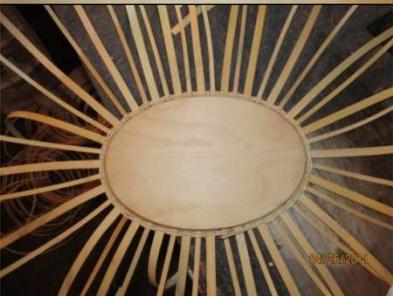
Insert the 24 7mm flat oval stakes in between each ½ flat stake. You will insert these stakes with the flat side of the reed facing up. You will have a total of 48 stakes.

Make sure to adjust spacing so that your stakes are evenly spaced around the base.



All 48 stakes inserted in to the base.



<p>Weave and chase two complete times around the base. Begin by inserting a #3 round weaver into the groove on the base in between two stakes. You will want to be over on the ½ flat stakes for this first row.</p>	
<p>Weave over/under for a few stakes with the first weaver.</p>	
<p>Begin your second #3 round weaver one space over to the left between two spokes – again inserting into the groove on the base. This weaver will be over the 7mm flat oval stakes.</p>	
<p>Weave over/under with the second piece until you reach the place where you ended with the first weaver. You always want your first weaver to be ahead of your second weaver and the second weaver to be “chasing” the first weaver. You will weave two complete times around the basket with each weaver – for a total of four rows.</p>	
<p>Four rows of chase weaving complete.</p>	

<p>Up close view of the four rows of weaving on the base.</p>	
<p>Upset your stakes all the way around the base.</p>	
<p>Begin weaving with 1/2 flat reed. You will want your first row to be over (on the outside) of the 7mm flat oval stakes and behind the 1/2 flat stakes.</p>	
<p>Weave a complete row of over/under weaving and end your row with a four stake overlap.</p>	
<p>Begin row two with the 1/2 flat reed and this row will be in front of the 1/2 flat stake and behind the 7mm Flat oval stakes.</p>	

<p>Four rows of weaving completed with ½ flat reed. Make sure to keep your stakes standing completely vertical. You will have to adjust your stakes on every row of weaving to keep the shape of the basket straight.</p> <p>Weave a total of 9 rows of ½ flat reed.</p> <p>Pack your weaving before starting the next section.</p>	
<p>The next row of weaving will be with 7mm flat oval. To avoid bulk at the overlap scarf down the ends of your weaver where it will overlap. The Square router blade works great on the flat oval.</p> <p>Click here to get the Exacto Scraper</p>	
<p>Basket with one row of the 7mm flat oval woven. Weave a second row of the 7mm flat oval.</p>	
<p>Weave the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 rows of 1/4FO dyed black (or color of your choice) 1 row of ½FF dyed turquoise (or color of your choice) 3 rows of 1/4FO dyed black 1 row of 7mmFO natural 3 rows of 1/4FO dyed black 1 row of ½FF dyed turquoise 2 rows of 1/4FO dyed black 	
<p>2 rows of 7mmFO natural</p> <p>This photos shows the colored band complete.</p>	

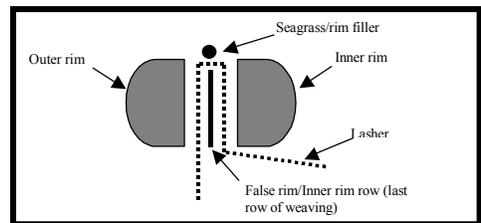
<p>Weave another 6 rows of ½ flat reed – the last row is your rim row.</p> <p>Pack your weaving if necessary.</p> <p>You want your last row of weaving to be behind the 7mm flat oval stakes in order to add your handles.</p> <p>Cut your ½ flat stakes off flush with the top row of weaving</p>	
<p>Before tucking, slip your shaker tape handles onto your basket. Your handles will go on ½ flat stakes and wrap around your false rim row. You can sew loops in your handles prior to putting them on the basket or sew them once you have the rim complete. Find your middle stake on the long side of the basket and count over four stakes to the right and the left. These are your handle stakes.</p>	
<p>Tuck your 7mm flat oval stakes under one or two rows of weaving.</p>	
<p>Rim the inside and outside of your basket with 5/8 flat oval. Measure around your basket for your 5/8 flat oval rim pieces. Determine the total circumference and add two to three inches for the outside rim and cut your inside rim about two inches shorter than the outside. For a professional finish, make sure to scarf your rims where they overlap to prevent excess bulk. I use a small plane and taper the oval side of the rim for about three inches. Then on the other end of the rim piece taper the flat side of the flat oval reed. Begin clipping on your outside rim covering up the last row of ½ flat weaving. Insert seagrass as rim filler between your rim pieces.</p>	
<p>OPTIONAL: Add a piece of ¼ flat oval dyed black to the outside rim piece as an overlay.</p>	

OPTIONAL: Use cable ties to hold rim in place during lashing.



Insert your seagrass between your rim pieces and begin lashing to the right of your outside overlap with a long piece of flexible 7mm flat oval reed. To begin lashing, insert end of lasher up between inner rim and false rim row, then take lasher over false rim row and down between outer rim and false rim row. You should leave a short tail hanging on the outside of the basket that can be trimmed when lashing is complete. See diagram for instructions on how to begin lasher.

Now, take the long end of your lasher and bring it up under your rim row, in between each stake. Pull the lasher tight (not too tight-you don't want to break your lasher). Continue around the basket inserting your lasher between each stake until you get back to where you began. X lash the stakes where your handles are located. When you have lashed all the way around your basket it is necessary to end the lasher in the same manner as you began. Once dry, trim the ends of the lasher flush with the underside of the rim.



Complete All Around Town Tote. This is a great basket for those trips to the library, post office, grocery store. Take it with you to the next soccer game. You will get compliments from everyone.

