

# Basket From Paper Strips

Difficulty: ★★☆☆☆ - Moderate

Time: 1 hour



## Materials

- Construction paper of different colors, magazine pages, old posters or pretty much any other kind of paper
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Paper clips, or clothespins, or clothes pegs

## Steps

1. Take your paper and, using a pencil and ruler, draw evenly spaced lines ( $\frac{3}{4}$  inch apart) along all the sheets.



2. For the base, we are going to fold the strips to make them stronger. Cut the paper into 3 inches wide strips (basically, width of three  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch strips). You'll need an **even number** of the wide strips for the base. We'll be using 8 strips in the instructions to make 4" x 4" base.

Tips: You can use as many paper strips as you like to make the basket bigger or smaller.



3. Fold the width of the strips 2 times along the lines you drew, creating  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch wide strips.

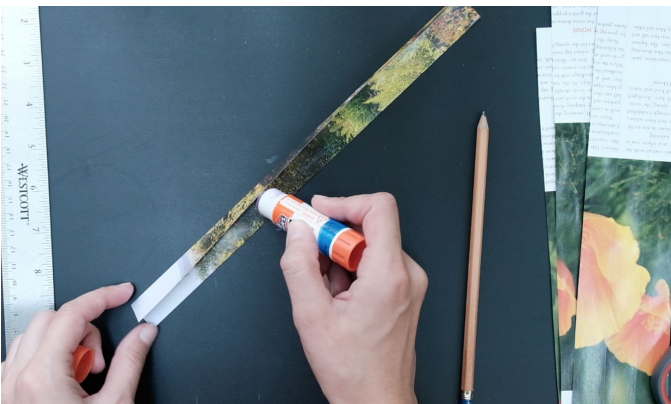


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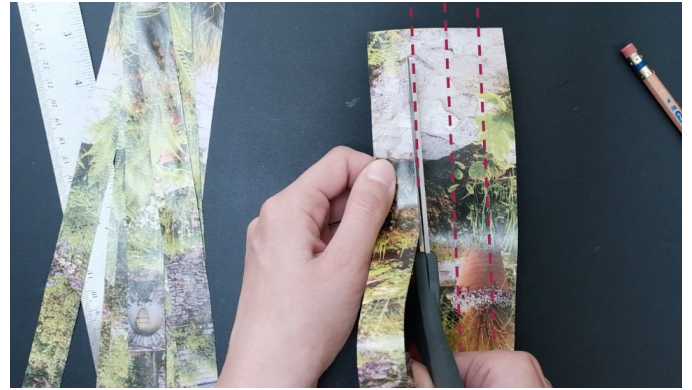
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4. Flatten the strips with a pencil and apply glue to secure.



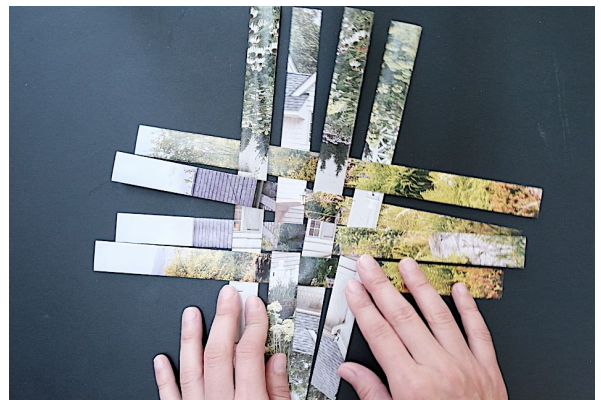
5. While glue is drying cut  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch wide strips for the sides of your basket.



6. Now weave your basket's base. Lay down four 'stronger' strips side by side vertically in front of you. Then take another 'stronger' strip and weave it in horizontally going **over** and **under** the four strips.



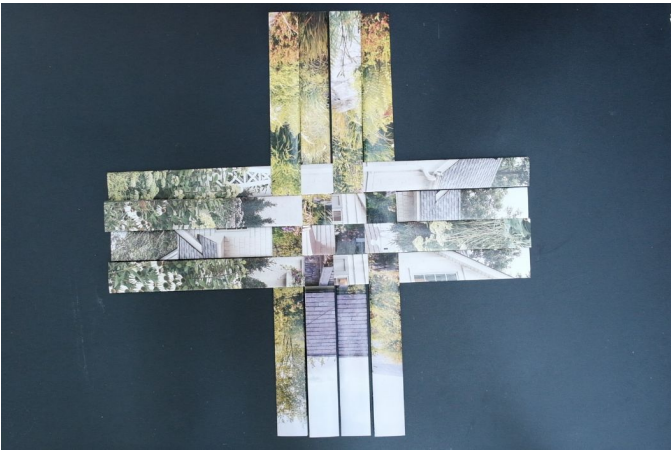
7. Repeat for the second strip, alternating the **over** and **under** pattern. Continue the same for the remaining two strips.



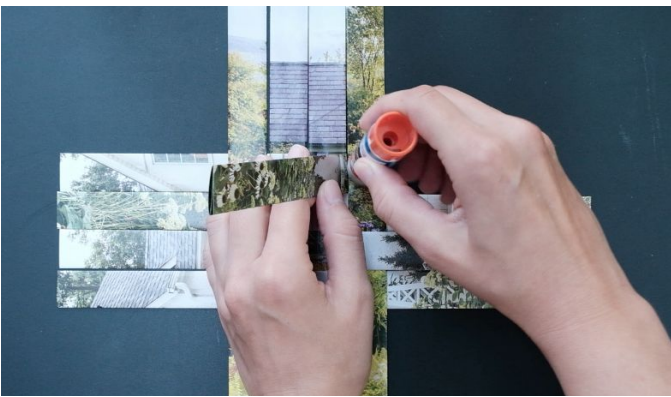
8. Tighten the weave carefully.







9. Glue the overlapping strips on each corner to secure the weave.



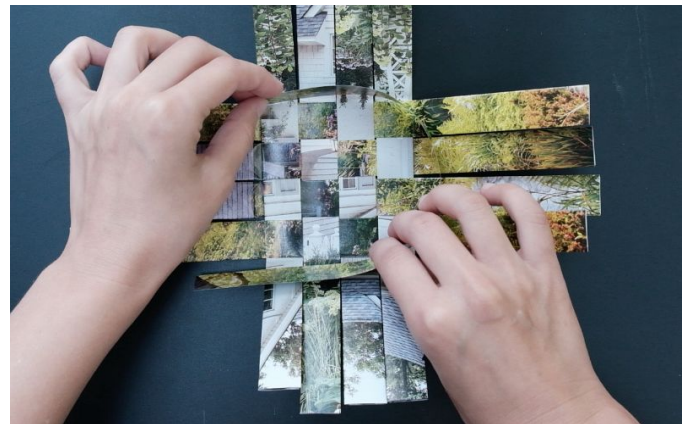
10. Fold all the ends on one side up and towards the woven center. You can use a ruler to create a straight folding line.



11. Continue folding the ends of the other three sides, forming a cube-like shape.



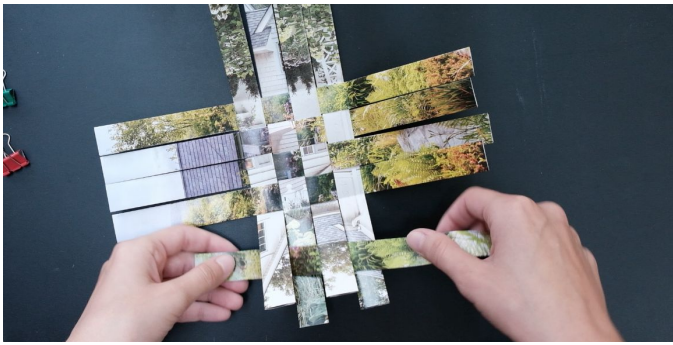
12. It's almost time to build the sides (walls). Use single layered strips for it. Make sure that the strips are long enough to cover all 4 sides of the woven center. If it's not long enough, you can glue or tape two strips together.



13. Start weaving the walls. Take a strip and weave it **over** and **under** the strips on one side of the wall, pressing it towards the base. Use glue or tape to secure it at the edges.







the first layer of the basket's sides. Use clips and glue at the corners to keep the stakes and the weaver together.



16. When the first weaver finished the full circle, snip off the excess end of the strip and glue its ends together by overlapping.



17. Repeat the process for a second row, alternating the **under** and **over** pattern.



The string you just wove in is called '**weaver**' and the vertically standing strips are called '**stakes**.'

14. Bring the wall up. Use a paper clip or clothespin to keep together the stakes and the weaver.



15. Moving around the basket and repeating the **over** and **under** pattern make



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18. Continue with more layers of weavers, building up the basket's sides.



19. When you reach the end of stakes or are happy with your sides' height, find the shortest side and trim the rest of the sides to match its height.



20. Finish the edge of the sides with a 'binding'. Take a single layered strip and fold it in half lengthwise.



21. Apply glue to the inside of the fold.



22. Cover the edge of the sides with the folded strip, moving all the way around.



If the binding strip is too long, cut off the excess.



Press and smooth it out.



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Your basket is ready! If you want, you can add a handle by gluing another piece of paper strip to it.



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