

Create an Easter Basket Ornament!

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Materials and Tools needed:

Mini Gourd

Saw or other cutting tool of your choice

Sandpaper

Woodburner

Paints and Dyes of your choice

Spray Sealer or finish of your choice

Embellishments of your choice

(Suggested items include Easter grass, mini wooden eggs, bunnies, or whatever would be found in an Easter Basket.)

Estimated time of completion:

1-2 hours depending on time spent on decorative painting or decorating.

Note: Project may be modified to create larger baskets by using a full sized gourd.



1. Choose a mini egg or other mini gourd. That will make a nice shaped Easter Basket Ornament. Be sure to clean the exterior of the gourd.



2. Draw lines where you would like to have a handle on your basket.



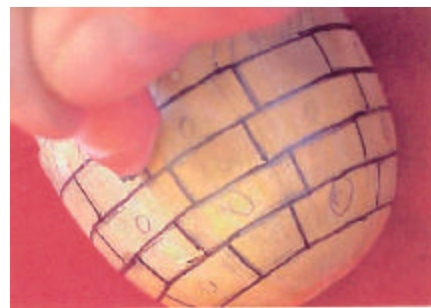
3. Use a mini jig saw, an exacto knife with a keyhole saw blade or your preferred method to cut the openings around the handle.



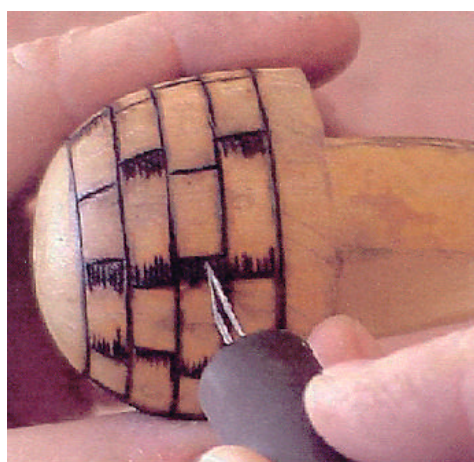
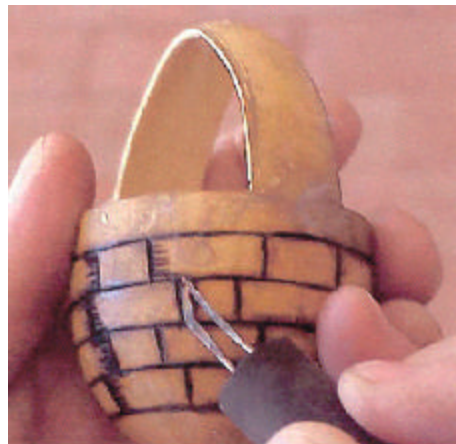
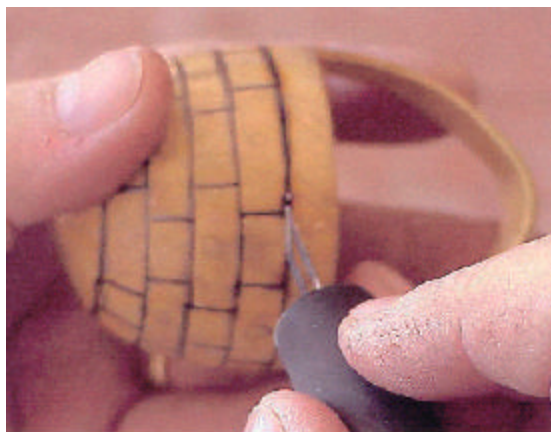
4. Clean the seeds and pulp from the gourd. Use some sandpaper to smooth the interior of the gourd.



5. Draw lines for the basket weave. I draw double lines for the vertical stakes, and label with an "O" which "weavers" will cross over the vertical stakes.



6. Erase the extra vertical lines that touch the areas marked with the "O". This will make the "over" weavers longer than the "under" weavers.



7. Burn the lines using a woodburner. I did the horizontal and vertical lines first, and then went back and added extra dimension where the “weavers” go under the vertical stakes. Add a decorative wrap around the top edge.



8. You can stain your basket or use paints to finish. I have used both dyes and paints to decorate these. The interiors of the baskets were painted with bright Easter colors. After painting, be sure to seal your gourd with some sort of finish, I use spray Krylon Satin. Add some cord to hang your ornament, or hang from the handle. Fill your baskets with Easter grass, tiny decorations such as painted wooden eggs, bunnies or even candy. Set a decorative branch of wood into a base to use as an Easter tree to display your ornaments.

**This project presented by the Welburn Gourd Farm.
For high quality gourds, visit us on the web at www.welburngourdfarm.com**