

Weaving with Palmetto Fronds

Materials Needed:

1. Sable palmetto leaf
2. Knife or scissors
3. Adult helper if you are under 13 year's old

Getting Started:

- ✓ Select Sable palmetto leaf and remove any loose/dead frond "strings"
 - ✓ Separate all frond leaves down to the base/central stalk (it's okay for leaf fronds to fold in half during this process)
 - ✓ Starting from the far right take the first frond and weave it between (under - over - under - over) the other fronds heading in a leftward direction
 - ✓ Upon reaching the center stalk do a half twist (maintaining under/over pattern) to keep large "bump" from occurring in the middle of project
 - ✓ Once first frond has been woven all the way to the left side of the palmetto leaf repeat process starting with the left side frond
- *The first couple passes are the most difficult*
- ✓ Repeat passes depending on size of leaf/size of finished product you desire.

FOR FANS:

Repeat passes until size of fan is desired by keeping passes loose and allowing project to lay flat

FOR BASKETS:

Repeat passes until size and symmetry of basket is desired; do this by slightly pulling on fronds in each pass making them taut and thereby causing the basket to build upwards

FINISHING YOUR PROJECT:

Give the fan / basket a clean finish by cutting off excess frond ends at an angle approx. 45° and 1½ to 2" in length. Tuck the ends into the basket's weave - be sure to follow the over/under patterning.