

Challenge

DESIGN A BASKET

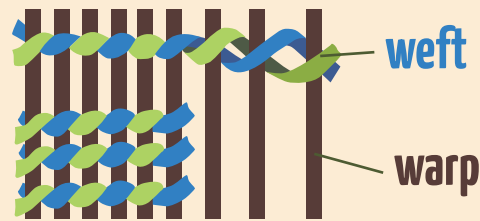
Use a traditional method of weaving, called twining, to create a basket out of a paper cup and yarn.



What is twining?

Twining is a traditional form of weaving that has been used for thousands of years to create baskets, sandals, woven mats, and other useful items.

Twining has two components—warps and wefts. The warps act like a skeleton, supporting the structure and shape. The wefts are twisted around the warps to create patterns and designs.



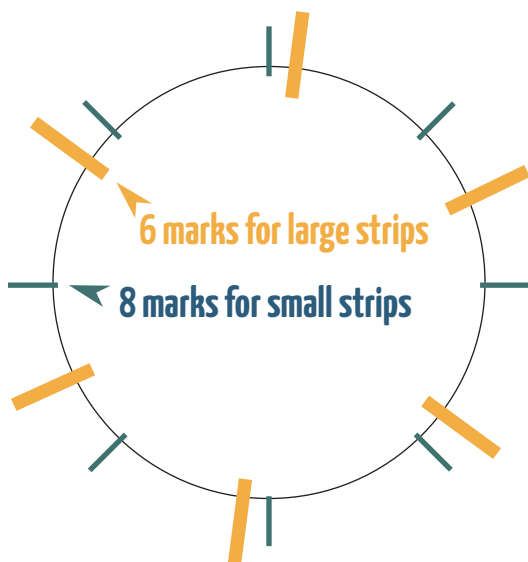
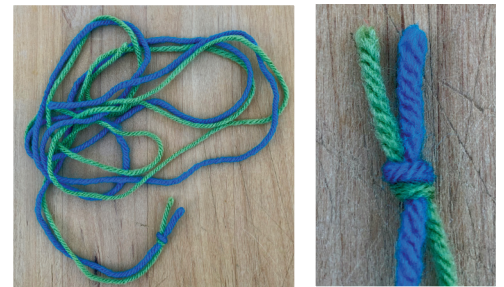
Klamath basket

What you'll need:

- 2 paper cups
- Scissors
- Yarn—2 different colors
- Pen

What to do:

Prep the Yarn. Cut a piece of each color yarn about 4 feet long and tie the pieces together at one end. It will take 3-4 sets of yarn to complete a basket. Using multiple lengths of yarn will keep it from tangling and allows you change the design as you go.

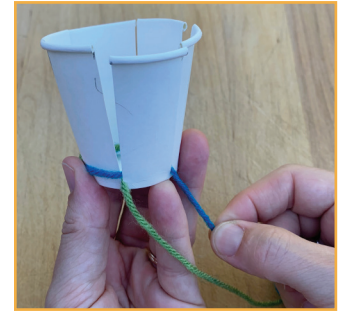
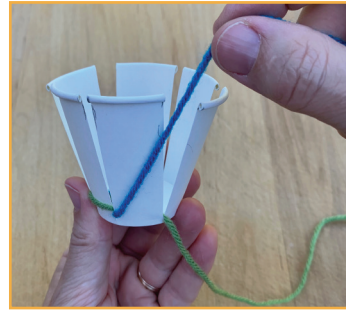
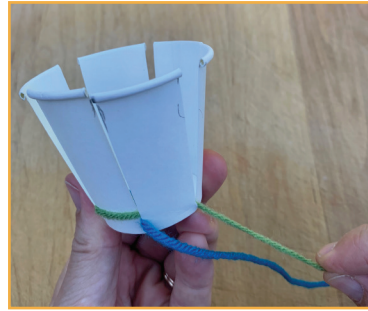
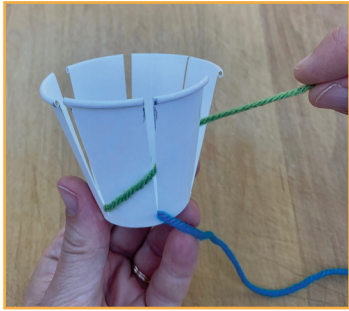


Prep the Cup.

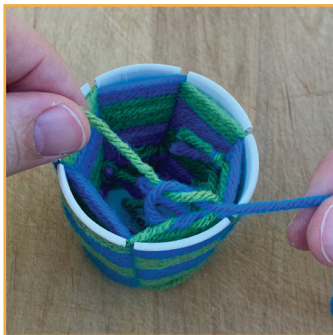
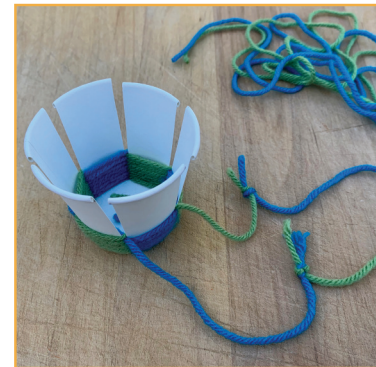


Use the template to make an even number of marks around the rim of the cup. Place the yarn knot inside the cup, pulling one yarn piece through a slot and the other yarn piece through the next slot.

Start Weaving



1. Start with the yarn color on the left. Weave it to the right by placing it **in front** of one strip and then **behind** the next strip. Pull gently down on the yarn and let go.
2. Pick up the other color of yarn and repeat step #1.
3. Continue weaving, switching to the opposite yarn piece after each weaving motion. This will make the yarn pieces “twine” around each other.
Hint: Gently push stacked yarn down on each paper strip as you go to keep a tighter weave.
4. When the yarn is almost out, tie another 4-foot length of yarn onto each piece to continue weaving.



Design Note: With an even number of paper strips, the colors will stack up together. You can keep colors the same or change colors to create a different design. Tying the opposite color onto each piece of yarn will make a checkerboard pattern.

5. Once you reach the top, tie the ends together. Tuck the loose yarn and knots down inside the woven yarn.

Keep on Engineering

Get creative and engineer your own basket design by changing colors of yarn or changing the shape of the paper strips. Try using other weaving materials such as pieces of plastic bags, fabric, string, or ribbon.

Natural basket challenge: Create a container out of natural materials that you can find outside. This might include weaving, but it does not have to.