

Paper Plate Weaving:

One of the oldest Native crafts is basket weaving. The oldest examples of Native American basket weaving are from the Southwest. The dry climate of this region helped preserve the baskets believed to date back nearly 8,000 years.

What is similar about these baskets? What is different? What do you think each one is used for?



1)



2)



3)

Materials

Paper Plate

Pencil

Something round to trace

Needed:

Yarn

Scissors

Glue and paintbrush (for
inside base of bowl)

INSTRUCTIONS:

Before you start weaving, you'll need to prepare your paper plate.

1. **Mark your plate:** Trace a circle in the center of your paper plate. This will be the base of your bowl.

Next, make an uneven number of marks, evenly spaced, around the edge of the paper plate.

Then draw a straight line to connect each mark to the circle that you drew.

2. **Cut:** Cut along each line, stopping at the circle that you drew. Now, make cuts on either side of each cut to form a V.

3. **Fold:** Fold each section at the pencil circle line and bend the sections up to form shape of your bowl. If any of the sections overlap, trim to make the V wider so there's no overlap when the bowl is formed.



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4. **Begin weaving:** Slip a piece of yarn between one of the cuts, leaving a tail, which you can hold down with your thumb while you get started. Weave in and out of the cuts, around and around the bowl. **NOTE:** Keep the sections of your bowl folded upwards as you weave. If you flatten them down, your weaving will not resemble a bowl.

Occasionally stop to assess your work and to push your yarn down if need be to ensure the paper plate isn't visible through your weaving.



5. **To change colors :**To change to a new color, snip your yarn, leaving a tail, and tie on a new piece of yarn, leaving another tail. You can trim these tails and tuck them in when you finish weaving.
6. **Finishing your weaving:** Stop weaving about 1/8 of an inch away from the top of the bowl. Cut your yarn and leave a tail, which you will tuck in shortly.

7. **Fold the edges:** Fold the remaining top edge of each section down and crease firmly to create the bowl's rim and to ensure your weaving doesn't slip off the top of the bowl.



rim
of

8. **Decorate the inside base--**Brush some glue over the inside base of the bowl, and use a long strand of yarn to create a spiral to cover the base of the bowl.
9. **Tuck in tails:** Using a pencil, tuck in any loose tails of yarn.

