

**Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association
Cultural Arts and Heritage Educational Program
BASKETS • Program of Work Focus • 2025 – 2026**

General Information:

- Baskets should be woven with natural materials (e.g. reed, cane, pine needles, leather); no rope baskets (rope baskets may be entered in 1. SEWING e. Specialty Home Décor)
- "Basket-shaped" items that are knit, crocheted, or constructed with a method other than weaving should be entered in the Category that demonstrates the skill used
- Dyed materials should be placed in the same sub-category as undyed materials
- Baskets with a wooden base that has a hole where it was attached to the mold during weaving, should have the hole closed with a wooden plug and sealed
- Chairs and stools with woven seats should be entered in 26. WEAVING a. Hand
- Brooms should be entered in 26. WEAVING a. Hand
- Where size is concerned, handles are not included in this measurement

KEHA Cultural Arts Exhibit Sub-Category Descriptions:



5a. Cane = includes Nantucket baskets; ribbed, woven with cane (cut from rattan plant, has a hard, smooth, shiny side and a dull, fibrous side); any shape or size allowed in which a wooden mold has been used for shaping; staves/stakes or hardwood, cane, or flat oval reed are inserted/attached to a wooden base; rim is hardwood, cane, or flat oval reed; if wooden base has a hole where it was attached to the mold during weaving, the hole should be closed with a wooden plug and sealed



5b. Wooden Base = any size reed basket (ribbed or non-ribbed) made with a wooden base (excludes Nantucket baskets)



5c. Miniature = 4" maximum in any direction (handles not included in measurement); includes Nantucket baskets, but other wooden base baskets of "miniature size" should be placed in the "wooden base" sub-category



5d. Novelty = any WOVEN item used for something other than a traditional basket (decorations, wall hanging, gourds, leather , etc.); COILED baskets made from natural materials (not rope or fabric)



5e. Non-Ribbed, Traditional = Any non-ribbed traditional reed basket larger than 4" in diameter that does not have a wooden base



5f. Ribbed, Traditional = Traditional Appalachian, no less than 4" in any direction, woven on a wooden frame with a series of ribs emerging from the lashing, binding parts of the frame together

Judging Criteria:

- 1) Made with natural materials (e.g. reed, cane, NO FABRIC / NO ROPE)
- 2) Level of difficulty
- 3) Uniform shape
- 4) Proper finishing: tight rim & trimmed lashing, excessive splinters are clipped or singed
- 5) Start / stop rows hidden
- 6) Packed weave (no gaps)
- 7) *For wooden base baskets:* Hole in the center of base is plugged and sealed

For more information about KEHA Basketry Category:

- Watch the [basket video on the Cultural Arts Chairperson webpage](#)
- Ask your Agent for a printed copy of the Extension publication "Baskets in Kentucky" (HSC-AP-001)
- Contact Cindy Moore, Cultural Arts State Chairperson, cjrn1@bellsouth.net