

Palm Weaving

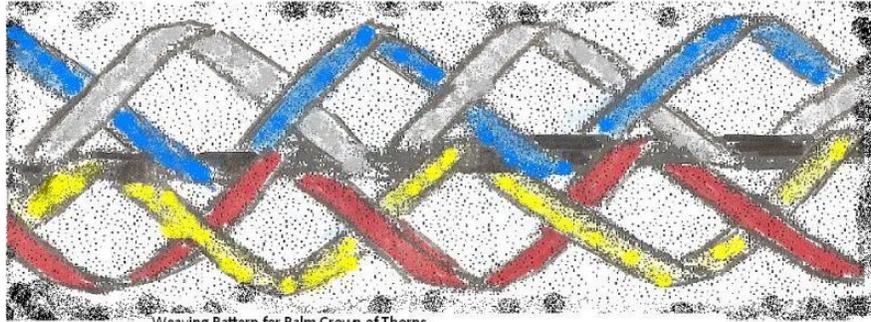


The Crown of Thorns Palm Weaving

Each Palm Sunday I weave the palm into decorative auras, crosses, roses and crowns for our liturgical celebrations at church and of course to adorn my Easter food basket and dinner table. I would like to share the directions with you.

Tools to make your work easier: Scissors, stapler, needle & thread, raffia, straight pins, thumbtacks, white glue - if you are braiding the palm, binder clips from office supply stores are very useful as they hold strong and you can secure them to a board to hold your palm. Or you can have someone hold the end while you braid. It is best to work with fresh palm as it is pliable. The palm gets very stiff quickly. If you need to soften it, immerse the palm in water for about 15 minutes.

Crown of Thorns as shown above:



Weaving Pattern for Palm Crown of Thorns
Bonnie Klisiewicz Bartley

Note, the photo of the weaving is horizontal, I work the pattern vertical. Begin with a center piece shown in black on the weaving pattern. Use a hard portion of the palm from edge. Try to find a stiff piece to hold up when you are weaving.

You will need four long pieces of palm, two for each side of the center piece. Clip or tape the 4 pieces and center spline, two palm, spline, followed by two more palm. I secure the entire piece to a board or table so it remains steady while weaving.

Start with the outside palm on the right. Twist it, over the palm next to it and then under the spine. Make sure you bend it back over. Refer to the picture to see the pattern.

Now take the outer most palm on the left and fold it over the palm next to it and under the spine, and then back over. Remember to bring it back over the spline.

The inner palm on the right is twisted over the palm and under the spine, and then back and down to the right. Continue switching from side to side until you run out of palm or have enough woven to form your crown.

Then take the stapled/taped end and bring them together to form the circle. Overlap them and secure the palm with a staples, raffia, string or thin piece of palm tying it tight. Once you have it formed and tied you can cut off an excess.

Use sharp scissors and clip the outside palms at an angle to create the thorns as shown on the photo.