



a natural state

Artist: Nancy Basket

Video 7: Paper Process, Part B: Making Paper

Basket: This is going to be lighter, but I like using just different lights and darks. I really should be putting my gloves on, but I'm not going to. I mix this up. This is going to be really quite thick. I like my paper to be a little bit thicker. Then when I glue it together, the glue doesn't show.

Some papermakers take it, and they have a great big huge screen, and they will take wet pieces that have very toxic dye on it and they lay it all out together. So when it's done, it's all done. But I like to make individual sheets of paper.

I was a quilter when I was in high school. That's how I kept out of trouble--making quilts. And this is kind of the same way. I'd make my pieces and then cut the pieces and put them back in together as a picture or a design.

This isn't quite the papermaker shake, but if you do it just right, it kind of locks the fibers together.

I take one of these felts, place it on the top. Push the water out. Turn it over, screen side up. And then I get real high-tech. Along with the blender, take your wooden rolling pin and roll it out a little bit. Put that down. Rub around the outside edge. And that should come out. Hey, it did. M-m-m, there's a mistake. Oh, well, who cares? It's alright. You patch it. Nobody makes a mistake in Nancy Basket's class.

I'm going to hang this back up there where I showed you before. And instantly the water starts dripping out. Yep, there we go. That's why I work out here in the barn. If I get a little bit of dye on the wood, it's more than a hundred years old anyway...not going to hurt anything.