

John Derrick explains about his baskets

2. Finishing a basket (04:53)

J. Derrick: Well, I'm going to soak these ribs down so I can turn these ribs down on this basket; I'm going to start putting water on them. I don't know whether you can see me, quite what I'm going to do here or not, because I'll start cutting. I'll split it won't, so it won't break, it'd be too thick. See, your rim will stick up, you just thin it down so it won't stick up so wide apart. And see you bring it down like this and you take a screwdriver and get under there, where you can start it. This is the last process before you start putting your rim around it. See, I've got it rolled up, it's wet. I'm hoping that it won't break. I'm going to trim this a little bit because of the swelling has got it wide. Now I'm going to start this split down on this basket right here on this rib. You've got to have something to hold it in place, or use copper wire or white oak splits, which you could use either one. But the wire works much better for me than what the white oak splits do. And I'm also going to turn this split up so it won't pull out, and get some of it cut off. So you either take a wet spilt or a green one or sew the rim on because when you sew the rim on, this rim is dry and that spilt is wet... be wet or green. And when you sew it on tightly with the spilt, wet or green, it draws... it shrinks and it gets tighter on the rim when it shrinks. Alright, I'm going to start this on this basket and sew this rim on right now. [Sews rim on basket entirely.] Ok, I've got it tied in and cut it off. This basket has got the rim sewn on it and then next step I would take would be to put this handle and this handle will go down to, I'd run this handle down to about right there [measures with handle.]