

V. Starting a Basket

A. Soaking (PO-00R)

All materials must be soaked in water before weaving. This makes them flexible for weaving. The maidenhair should be soaked at least a day ahead of use. Most other materials should be soaked for an hour or so before they are used; if soaked too long, their colors change. The Woodwardia fern should be dampened and kept damp, not soaked.

B. Getting Started

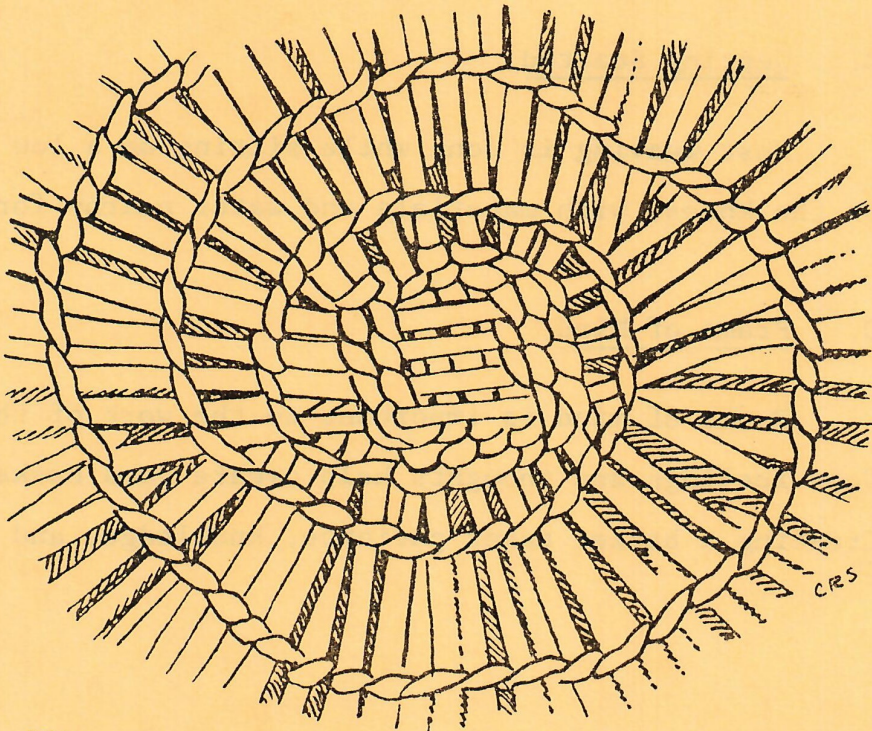
Most weaving is done while sitting on a low stool or on the knees, with materials and water nearby for soaking.

C. Frame of Mind

Frame of mind is important to the work of the weaver. Good feelings and thoughts help create good baskets. Creating a basket takes patience, knowledge, and skill.

D. Open Weave Twining: Basket Start

Select sticks according to desired width. Start around the outside with two-strand weaving to make the "button." Continue around in two-strand weaving, adding sticks as you go, into the warp and the weft, as needed. Keep adding sticks until you have almost reached the desired diameter. Keep weaving and the edges will turn up automatically.

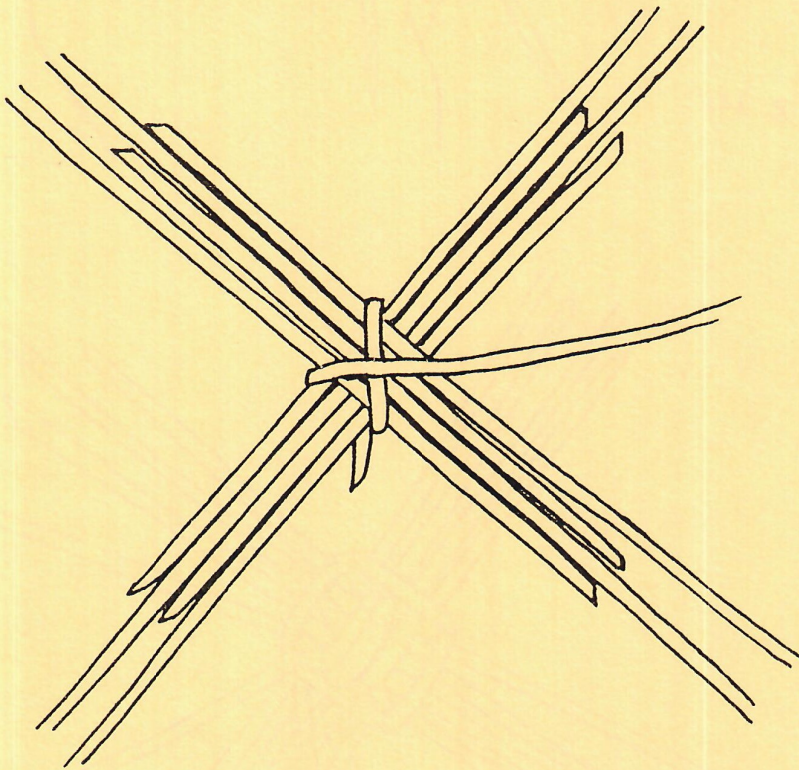


(fig. 32)

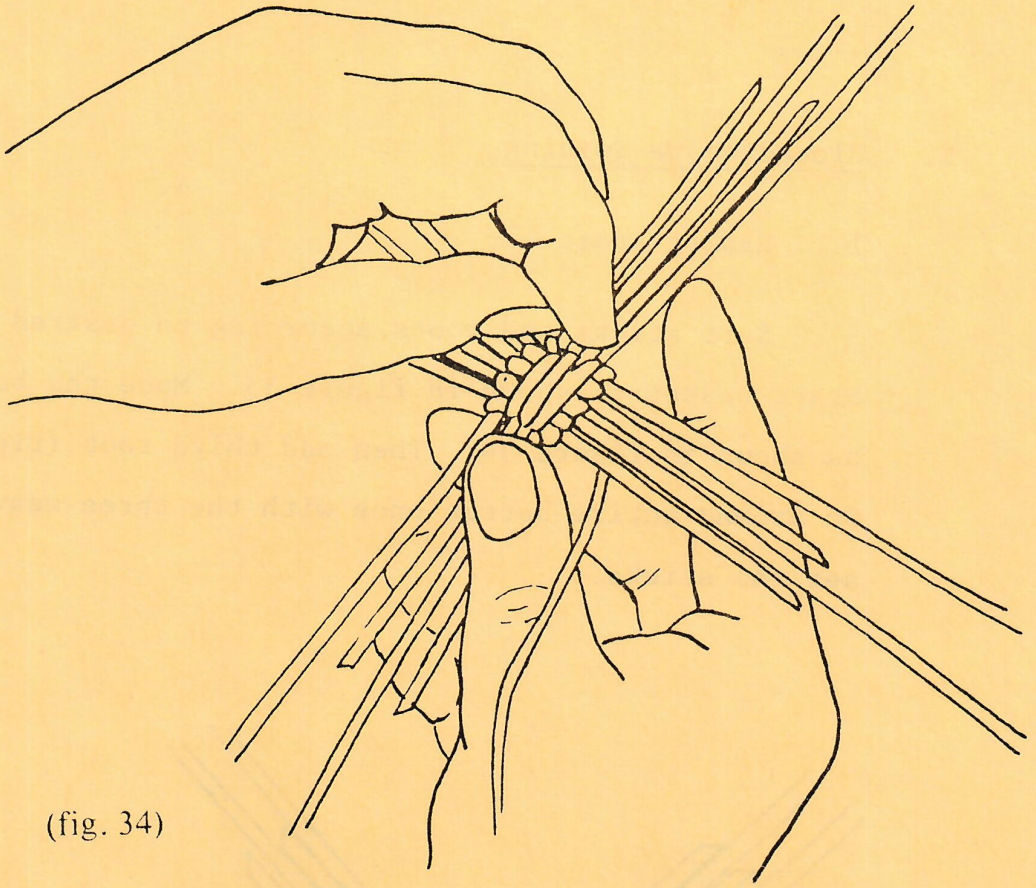
E. Closed Weave Twining

1. Basket start

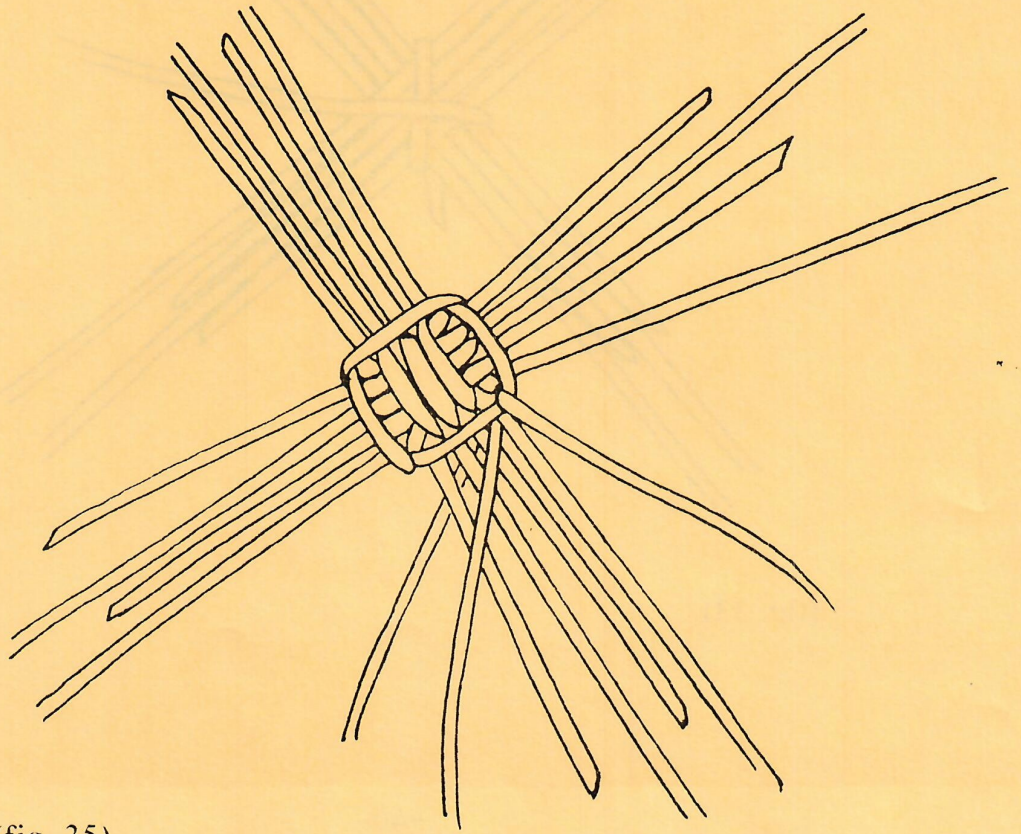
Sort sticks and roots according to desired size. Start basket as shown in figure 33. Make the button as shown in figure 34. Then add third root (fig. 35). Go around entire button once with the three weave to set the sticks.



(fig. 33)



(fig. 34)



(fig. 35)