

A Folk Candle Wreath



Photograph: Linda Downs (CA)

Instructor

Marian Vavra (KS)

Designer

None

Instructor's Comments

*Wrapping straw around other straws creates very interesting artistic possibilities! In 2016 and 2019, I traveled to Poland and Lithuania for the International Straw Festivals where I saw beautiful wreaths and head pieces created this way. Upon studying these folk pieces, I discovered the richness of these earthy, organic forms. **The Folk Candle Wreath** is my interpretation of this folk tradition, made by wrapping sixty straws into groups and then wrapping the groups together to create the circle. As you will see, the possibilities of this technique are endless. Come join me as we explore!*

Skill Level

Beginner and Open

Straws Needed

◆ Not Applicable *see Class Kit*

Other Supplies Needed

- ◆ Thread – button or topstitching weight
- ◆ Pins and pin board
- ◆ Flameless candle

Finished Size

Without the candle –
12" diameter circular wreath, depth 1 ½"

Class Kit:

*\$20.00 includes the following:

- *70 straws with heads
– hand harvested, dried, cleaned, sorted, counted, and soaked for class

**No additional kits will be available.*

What will be taught in class:

- Folk straw wrapping technique – *Marian's instructions*
- Two-straw Rose – *NAWW Plait Directory First Addition*
- Clove hitch and surgeon's knot for beginners – *NAWW Plait Directory*

No Prerequisites

Suggested wheat:

Most types of cereal straw with heads will work. Marian uses Kansas hard red winter wheat – Zenda variety 2020 production wheat from Matthew Voth's Coyote Gulch Farm, Goessel, Kansas

Pre-class work:

- None