

## **Information for Sales People at Artisans on fifth Featured Artist: Anne Bulmer**

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### Materials and Techniques:

- The type of basket called a "Nantucket" is woven on a mold, with the base, rim and handles made from hardwoods such as cherry, walnut and maple. All the staves or ribs of the baskets use cane or hardwood, depending on the project. The staves must be cut, tapered, sanded and bent to fit the mold before weaving can begin. She then weaves the project basket with cane ranging in size from 1.25 mm to 3.0 mm.
- It takes up to 4 hours for preparation of materials for a 6" Nantucket basket. The time weaving and finishing the 6" basket will usually add another 25 hours.
- "Shaker" baskets are also made on molds, and are simple and elegant in design, constructed entirely of pounded black or brown ash. The size of the basket mold determines the size of the stave used. The weavers she uses range from 1/32nd to about 1/8th inch. On a Shaker basket the only hardwood used is for rims and handles. As an example, when making a square or rectangular basket, the bottom is plaited and woven to the desired dimensions. From this type of base, sides are woven, either maintaining corners to form a square or rectangular basket or with curved sides woven to a round or oval shape at the rim.

### Helpful Information for the Customer:

- No basket made of interwoven materials such as cane, twigs, rushes, thin strips of wood, or other flexible material can be machine-made. When you find a basket that interests you, look at it carefully and remember someone, somewhere used their hands to make these truly handmade items.

### Packaging Instructions:

- Wrap in plain newsprint and/or bubble wrap.