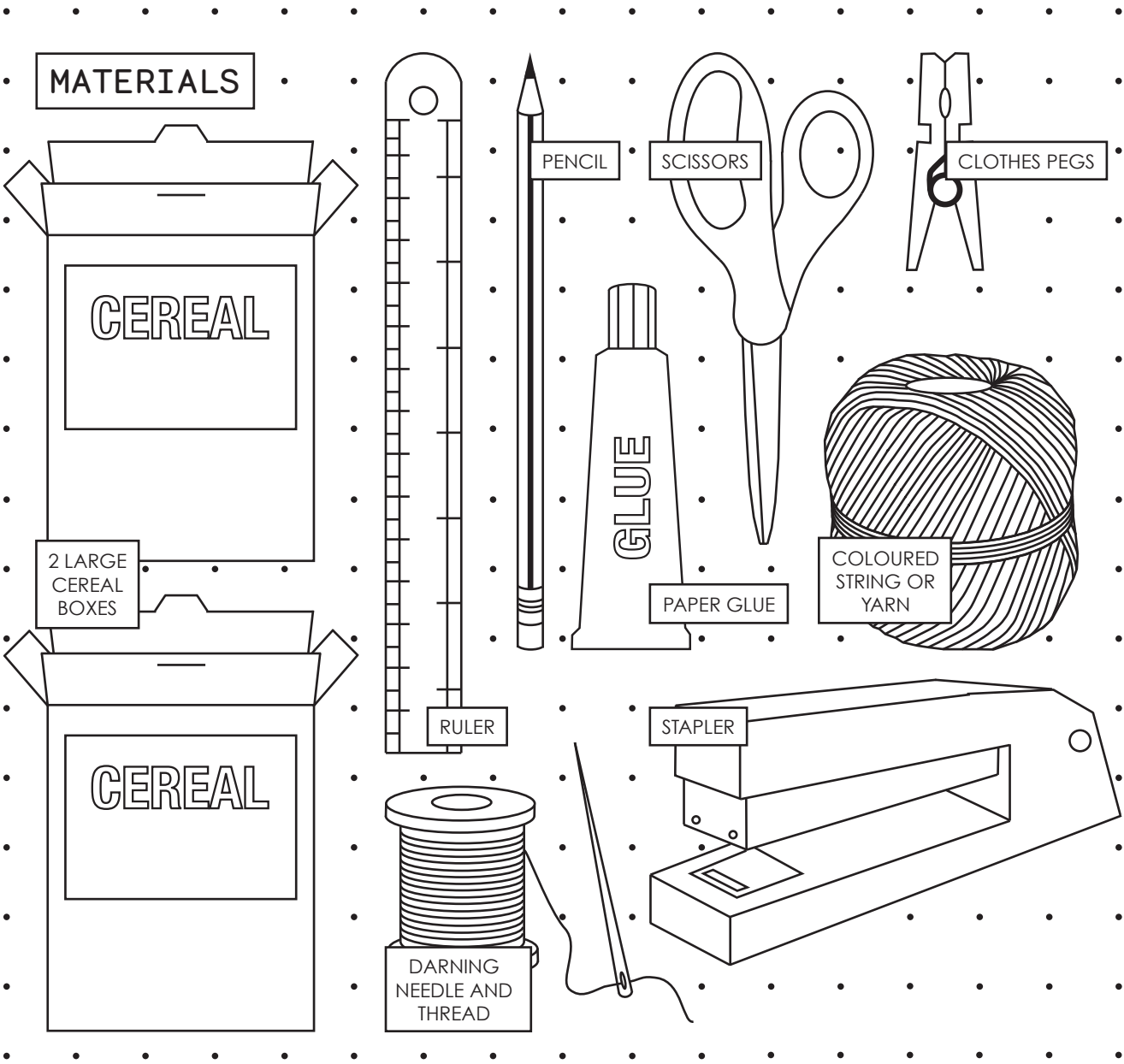


WOVEN CARD BASKET

RUBY TAYLOR

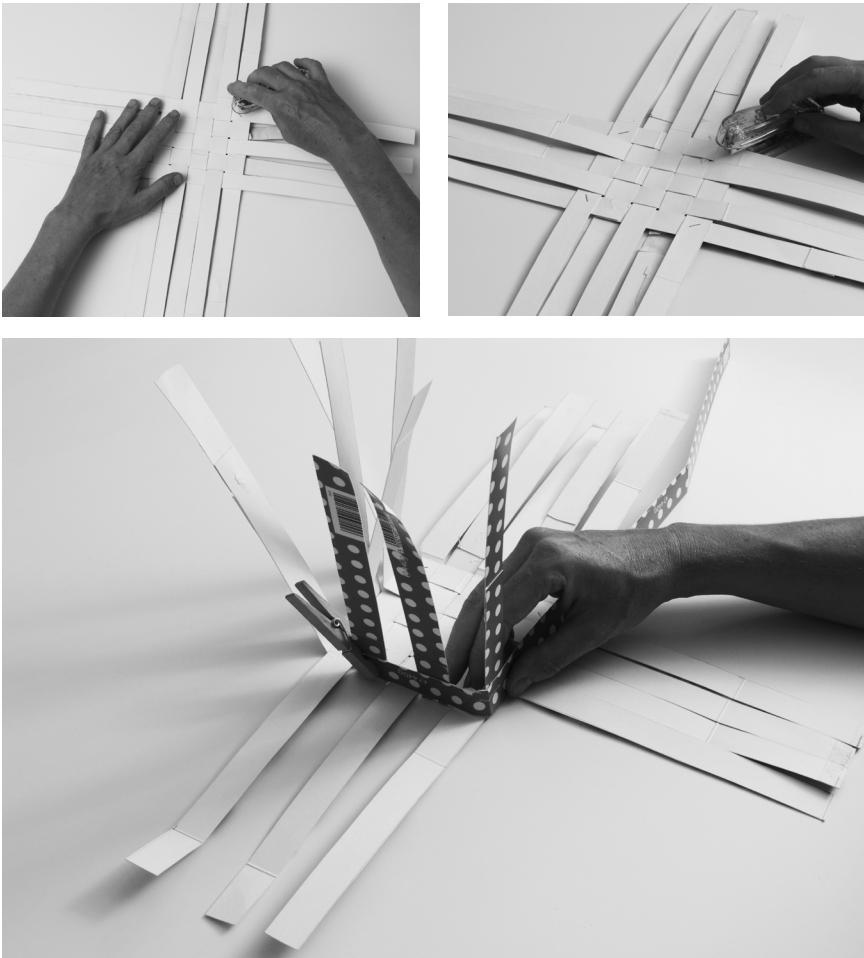
Foraged from the urban jungle.
Making a woven container from recycled cereal boxes.



INSTRUCTIONS

NOTE
I used 16 strips to make this small container. You can scale it up by joining strips together and by increasing the number of strips for the base.

STEP 1
MAKE THE BASE
Open out the boxes and cut into 2cm strips along the length. Weave 10 strips to make a base 5 strips x 5 strips. Staple together at the corners.
Fold the strips so they all stand upwards (they will now be called stakes). Place the end of a new strip (this strip will now be called a weaver) between the middle two stakes of one side. Make sure you are continuing the 'in front of one / behind one' weave pattern from the base. Peg weaver.



STEP 2
WEAVE THE FIRST ROW
Following the simple 'in front of one / behind one' sequence, weave this strip, keeping the corners crisp by bending them. Overlap the beginning of the first weaver to complete the row. Peg weaver in place, leaving the tail.



STEP 3

AND THE REST

Starting at the middle of the next side, weave a second row, overlapping the end as before and pegging as necessary. Continue until you have 4 rows. As you go make sure the corners are crisp by folding them and keep the tension by gently pulling on the weaver as you go.



STEP 4

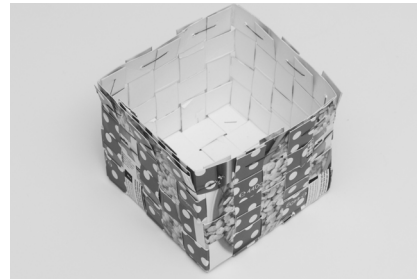
Make any final adjustments to tension and weave and trim away any tails of weavers that are sticking out.

To secure the top edge: measure a length of thread that goes easily around the circumference of the container, add a bit extra and then double it. With the double thickness of thread sew around the top in a running stitch.



STEP 5

Cut off the ends of the stakes, completely evenly with the top edge of the last weaver.



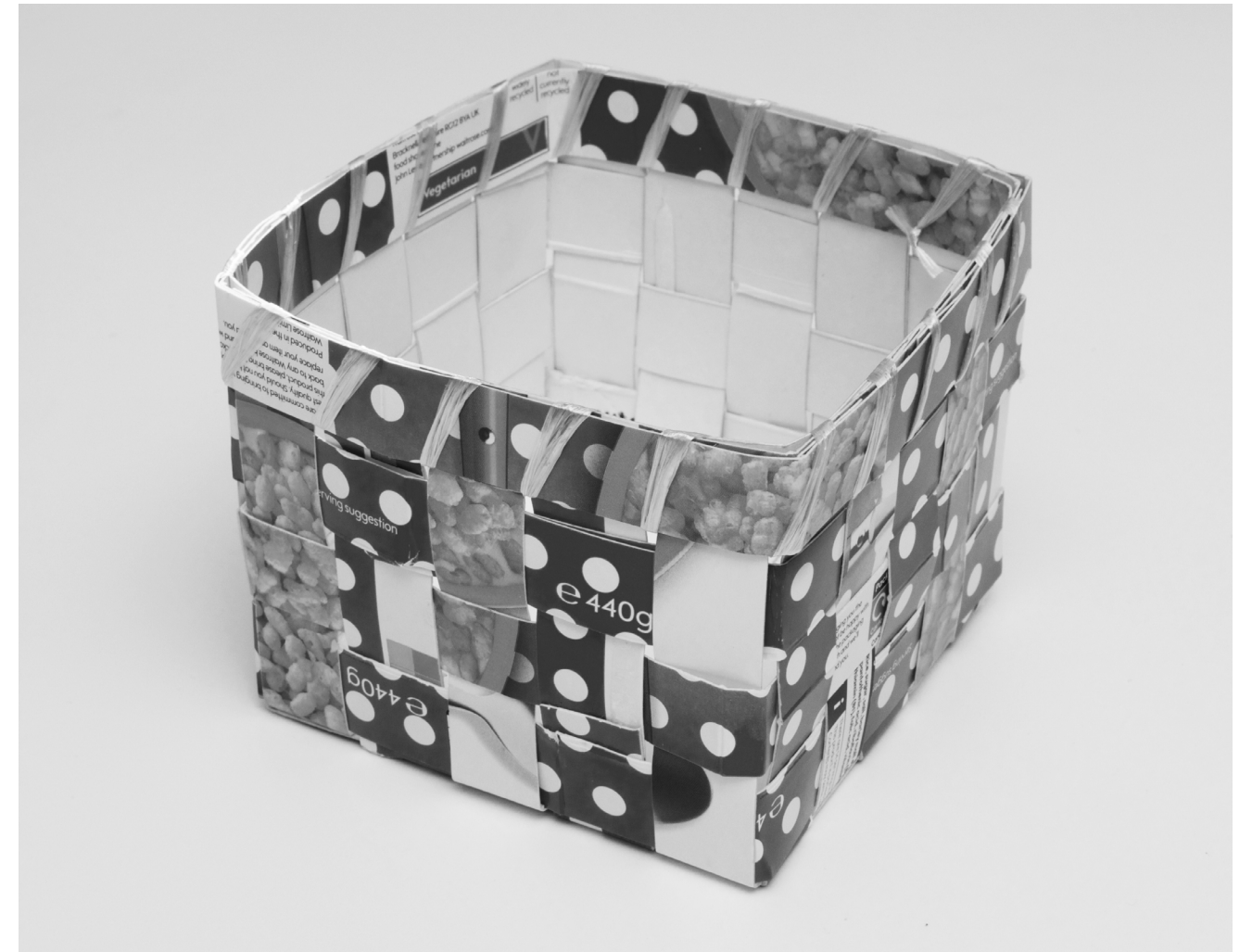
STEP 6

To sandwich the top row of your container between two strips of card: cover the back of one strip with paper glue and stick it to the inside edge of the container, starting in the middle of one side. Make the corners crisp and keep the strip level with the top edge. Trim to make a neat join. Repeat with a strip on the outside edge of the container.



STEP 7

Measure a length of string or yarn which goes twice around the circumference of your container. Starting on the inside, leave a tail 3cm long. Putting the needle through close to the bottom edge of the border, bind the border together with a simple overstitch. Tie the two ends of the yarn together in a knot and trim.



WHAT NEXT?

If you want to learn more about basketry from recycled and foraged materials, and sign up for courses, visit my website: www.nativehands.co.uk

You could also check out these books:

Crafty Containers by Lois Walpole

Practical Basketry Techniques by Stella Harding and Shane Waltener

Ruby's training includes 3D crafts at Brighton University and a PGCE in Art and Design. She currently teaches wild pottery and wild basketry as Native Hands www.nativehands.co.uk, specialising in foraging materials from the land and hedgerow.

The joy of making, issues of sustainability and connection to nature are her key concerns.