

Weaving, it turns out, is one of the oldest and most sustainable human endeavors. Natural fibers decay, but archaeologists have found imprints of woven material in clay, which date back 27, 000 yrs ago!

## TEK

Traditional Ecological Knowledge defines the Native American traditions and practices that have been handed down through the generations. Weaving baskets is one of those traditions. The knowledge of where and when to gather supplies, which plants to select, and how to weave them are all part of TEK. Sue Campbell, Mountain Maidu basketweaver and teacher, respects the TEK required for weaving, when she says it takes 10,000 years to make a basket.

## LEARN MORE

Visit the virtual exhibit: *Unbroken Traditions* to learn more about basketweavers in Northern California. Master weaver, Lilly Baker, began weaving at age eight.

## PRACTICE YOUR WEAVING

Most of us don't have a full art room with yarn and looms, so be creative and experiment. Here are a few ideas.

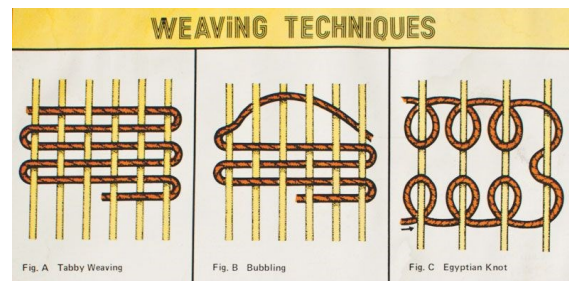
**Closest:** Wire or plastic hangers, old socks or scarves, and strips of cereal boxes or can labels.

**Backyard:** Branches or sturdy bramble, grasses, flower petals or leaves.

### Directions:

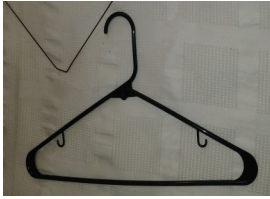
1. Decide if you will use branches with a natural Y shape or a hanger as your "loom."
2. Then gather socks or grasses or other items to tie and wrap around the loom in linear, horizontal rows.
3. In the opposite vertical direction, begin using an under over technique to weave in the other supplies you have gathered.

**SEE BELOW DIAGRAM FOR WEAVING TIPS!**



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[ Ideas ]

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