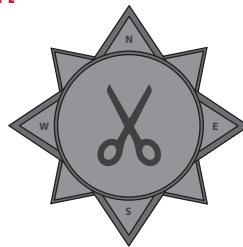


BUILD A GIFT BASKET

A gift basket can be an amazingly thoughtful gift; especially one you have put together yourself. Personalization you can include for the intended recipient is an extra special touch.

FLIP OVER FOR YOUR NEXT CHALLENGE



EARN THIS NUGGET

Create a wonderful, customized gift basket for someone. Talk to your parents about who you or your family should make a basket for.

With the holiday season upon us, learning to build a gift basket will be a real blessing to someone special, I'm sure.

1. First, a gift basket is more than a bunch of random items thrown into a basket with a bow on top. It takes planning. The items are usually thematic. If the recipient, for instance, loves cats, you might decide to shop for a collection of cat-themed items and place them into the basket, making it customized. A perfect gift for one particular individual.
2. Second, after selecting a theme and the right items, purchase an appropriate sized basket that will work with the size and quantity of gifts it will contain.
3. Next, fill the bottom of the basket with crumpled tissue paper or a similar filler.
4. Start with putting the tallest items in the center of the basket, arrange smaller items around the edges. Use more filler between items to hold them in a position that looks attractive.



5. Finally, the finishing touch is to wrap the basket. Often this is done with tulle or cheese cloth, but it can also be done with cellophane. Wrap it by placing the basket on the material you selected, pull the wrapping up to the top, and tie it at the top with a ribbon.