

# Dyeing Basket Reed using PRO MX Reactive Dyes

Please read directions carefully before starting.

Use PRO MX to dye basket reed. Always do test samples before working on a large project. For additional information, visit our website at [www.prochemicalanddye.com](http://www.prochemicalanddye.com).

- ✘ Wear rubber gloves, apron or old clothes.
- ✘ Utensils used for dyeing should never be used for food preparation.

## Supplies

PRO MX Reactive Dye  
 PRO Dye Activator or Soda Ash  
 Common Salt

## Procedure

**1. Soak the reed** in 4 gallons (16 liters) of room temperature 75° to 95° F (24° to 35° C) water, using a plastic or enamel container for the dye bath, for a minimum of 30 minutes. Reed tends to float and should be weighted down. Use a clean brick, stone or water-filled and sealed glass or plastic jars.

**2. Dissolve the salt** from the chart below, in one quart (1 liter) of HOT 120° to 140° F (49° to 60° C) water. Add the dissolved salt to the reed and stir well.

For 1 pound of basket reed:

	All colors, other than Black	Black
Water	4 gallons, or enough to cover the reed (16 liters)	4 gallons, or enough to cover the reed (16 liters)
Common Salt	2 cups (598 gm)	4 cups (1196 gm)
PRO MX Reactive Dye	2 Tablespoons (30 gm)	4 Tablespoons (60 gm)
PRO Dye Activator or Soda Ash	6 Tablespoons (100 gm)	8 ½ Tablespoons (143 gm)

**3. Dissolve the dye.** Measure the dye powder, from the chart above, adding a total of 2 cups (500 ml) of room temperature 75° to 95° F (24° to 35° C) water, after the initial pasting of the dye powder. Thoroughly dissolve the dye and add to the dye bath. Let the reed soak in the dye bath, rotating the reed every 10 -15 minutes, for a couple of hours.

**4. Fix the color.** Dissolve the PRO Dye Activator or Soda Ash from the chart above, in 2 cups (500 ml) warm 100° to 110° F (38° to 43° C) water. Add to the dye bath and stir well. Allow the reed to soak overnight.

**5. Pour off the dye bath** and rinse reed until the water runs clear and air dry. It usually takes 3 or 4 rinses to thoroughly rinse the reed and the water runs clear. The reed is now ready for weaving.