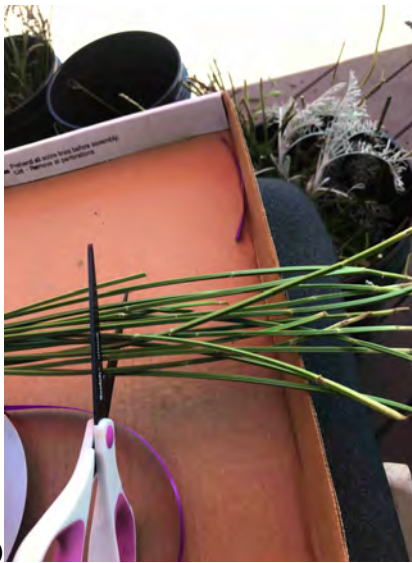




## Make Your Own Lavender Wands and Baskets

Making lavender wands and baskets is a great way to make the lavender harvest last all year. Wands and baskets start the same way, with a slight difference in where you tie the ribbon initially. The photos below will help you as you learn.

- 1) Select 18 long stems and clean them of all leaves and extra buds (a). Cut the stems evenly at the bottom, to about 12" for wands and a bit longer for baskets (b).



- 2) Take about 3 feet of ribbon and tie the stems together. Tie just below the flowers for a wand and about an inch below the flowers for a basket.



- 3) Twist and fold two stems over the buds, laying the stems across the ribbon (a). Take the next two stems and place the ribbon across the stems (b).



(a)



(b)

- 4) Continue in this manner, folding down two stems at a time (a) and weaving the ribbon over and under until you have all pairs of stems folded down (b).



(a)



(b)

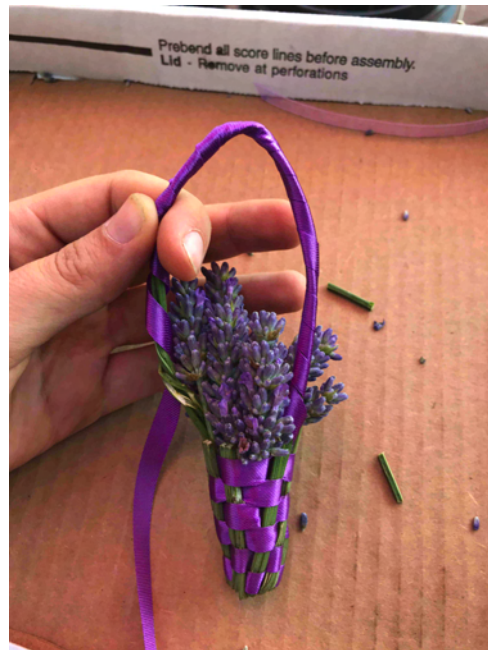
- 5) Continue weaving the ribbon over and under the pairs of stems, enclosing the lavender flowers as you go. Pull the stems you have just worked with to the side as you go, to focus on the two at hand. Tighten the ribbon by pulling upward on it as you go. As the lavender dries, it will shrink, so tighten it more than you think you need to. Once you reach the bottom of the bulge created by the flowers, tie or pin the ribbon and cut off the extra.



- 6) For a basket, stop weaving with about 1.5 inches of flowers showing and cut all stems but two, leaving about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " of stem above the last row of weaving. Choose the two longest stems that are opposite each other for the handle and do not cut them. Twist each long stem and bend it over to the opposite side of the basket to form the handle, tuck the stems into the weave, and wrap ribbon around the handle (b). Be sure to hang your basket upside down to dry or the lavender stems will wilt!



(a)



(b)