

# An Easter whip

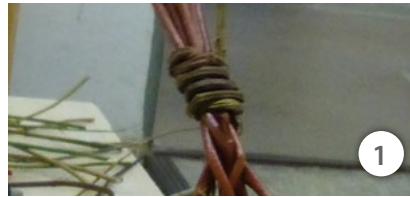
Text and images by Jérôme Pierron, made by Barbora Hrdinova



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## Classic version

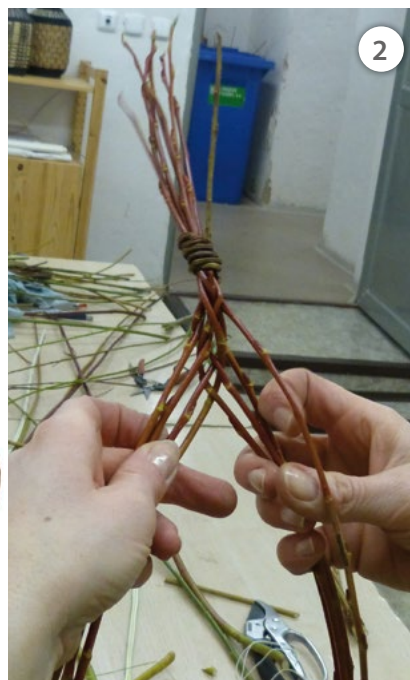
1 – Take 8 identical lengths of green willow and attach them together at their tips with another piece of willow.



2 – Separate them into two groups: 4 to the right and 4 to the left. Another person can hold the tips for you or they can be tied to something to help you work.

- From the group to the right take the rightmost willow and pass it round the 2<sup>nd</sup> from the left in the left hand group, then bring it back so it becomes the leftmost willow in the right hand group.

- Repeat this with the leftmost willow in the left hand group. Pass it round the willow the 2<sup>nd</sup> from the right and bring it back to the left hand group (it becomes the rightmost of that group).



3 – Repeat and continue along the full length of the willows.



4 – Tie the ends with another weaver.



## Remarks

- It is also possible to make a whip with 12 willows by using 2 groups of 6.
- Because this is green willow you can insert a pointed dowel of 1 cm (½ inch) diameter into the bundle of willows (at the foot end) so that the wrapping does not come undone.

## Elaborate version

1 – This starts from the foot end of the willows, with a thick one in the middle and 8 others arranged around it.



2 – Bind the ends of the willow rods together tightly with another piece of willow.



3 & 4 – Fold over one of the thin rods to the right and pass it in front of the thick willow. Fold another to the left and pass it behind the thick willow.

Continue: Take the lowest rod on the right hand side, fold it up and to the left, pass it behind and round the thick willow, it comes back to the right but is now the highest rod.

Take the lowest on the left, pass it behind and round the thick willow, it becomes the highest left hand rod.



Continue like this the length of the whip to its tip then bind the ends together.

## The handle

Whichever design you choose to make you can add a decorative handle.

5 – Slide 5 or 6 weavers, foot end first, under the binding on the end of the whip. You might need to use an awl to make room.



6 – Plait a handle round the end of the whip. Slide the ends of the weavers into the end of the handle and finish with a fine weaver to secure it all.

