What You’ll Need to carry out the job of hand weaving your chair seat or back. Quality Chair Cane and Binder Cane, tapered Golf Tees, Round Core/Reed for plugs, Small flat head screw driver to assist with weaving the cane, water and plenty of patience. Example here is a Bentwood Seat with holes already clear of old cane.

Tips Before You Begin: Dampen cane before and during weaving, but do not soak. Mist spray is ideal. Store the cane in a dark cool environment when not in use. Weave in the direction so that the barbs do not catch. Tie off any loose ends with a small knot under the rim. Finish with shellac or orange/linseed oil.

Step 1. Starting dead centre front and back holes, weave cane through holes parallel. Vertical canes. Use the golf tees to hold ends of cane in place.

Step 2. Do same as Step 1 only weave from left to right and directly over the top of Step 1. Horizontal canes.

Step 3. Same as Step 1, weave the cane directly over the top of Step 2. Gets a little messy here, but keep going. Make sure that you stay ‘right’ of Step 1.

Step 4. Starting from left to right, weave the cane under Step 1 and over Step 3. You will now see small squares forming. Keep these squares as small as possible.

Step 5. The diagonals are what brings the weave together. Starting in one corner weave the cane under the Steps 1 and 3, and over Steps 2 and 4. IE under horizontal and over vertical canes. On square seats you must start in one of the far corners.

Step 6. Starting in the opposite corner to Step 5 weave the cane under Steps 1 and 3 and over Steps 2 and 4. IE over horizontals and under verticals.

Step 7. Use a larger width cane which will cover the holes. This is the Binder Cane. You can lock this in by threading the cane up through a hole and then pass over the top of the Binder Cane before passing back down the same hole and then onto the next hole. Some caners will skip every other hole, but not recommended on a round seat or back. Tie off underneath.

Maintenance: Clean with a damp cloth every now and then. Avoid standing on the seat to change a light bulb and children with pencils in the cane. Cane can expand and go loose when rain is about, but will go taut in dryer conditions.