



## Leather wrapped basket

MIDWEEK MAKE

A faded hanging basket can be used for more than just flowers. Clean it up, find some leather you can cut into strips and you'll be able to make yourself a handy basket with handles for holding eggs or as a decorative piece.

Project and photography by Almie Louis from Grand Recycler ([grandrecycler.com](http://grandrecycler.com))

### MATERIALS

- ❑ Old hanging basket
- ❑ Leather trousers, jacket or shirt
- ❑ Old leather belt
- ❑ Old decorative cupboard handles

### EQUIPMENT

- ❑ Fabric scissors
- ❑ Fabric glue and brush
- ❑ Binder clips
- ❑ Pins
- ❑ Single hole punch for leather
- ❑ Long nose pliers

♥ **STEP ONE** Wash the hanging basket and make sure that it is free of dust and rust. If it has rust marks, treat it with a rust preventer.

♥ **STEP TWO** While the basket is drying, start to cut the leather strips. I used an old pair of leather trousers to make my strips. Cut the seams open so that you have flat pieces of fabric.

♥ **STEP THREE** You can draw long lines and cut along the lines, or just cut freehand if you have a good eye.

♥ **STEP FOUR** When you have a good number of strips and your basket is dry, start to coil the leather strips around the metal bars, fastening them with the pins, binder clips and fabric glue as you go along. I did all the

vertical metal bars before I did the horizontal ones. Cut more strips if needed. This sounds like a lot of work, but it is very simple work and goes very quickly if you persevere.

♥ **STEP FIVE** When you have covered the entire frame, cut two 20cm pieces from the belt for the handles. Press two holes on both end sides of the 20cm pieces of belt with the hole puncher, big enough for the cupboard screw to fit.

♥ **STEP SIX** Fold the 20cm piece of belt around the top frame of the basket to form a leather handle. Press the screw of the cupboard handle through and fasten it onto the frame with pliers.

