

# Make a Model Fish Skin Basket

Explore the tradition of fish skin sewing by making a model basket!

## Materials Needed:

Basket and Fin Template printables, peeled crayons, scissors, clear tape, objects to rub for fish skin and fin textures.

## Instructions:

**Step 1:** Place the basket template over an object with an interesting texture. Rub with the side of a crayon. Try using more than one color. Turn the paper over and make rubbings on the back as well. Do the same with the fin templates. Can you find textures that look like fish skin and fins?

**Step 2:** Cut out the basket template along the dotted lines. Cut around the outer circle and the straight lines. Be sure to stop when you get to the inner circle!

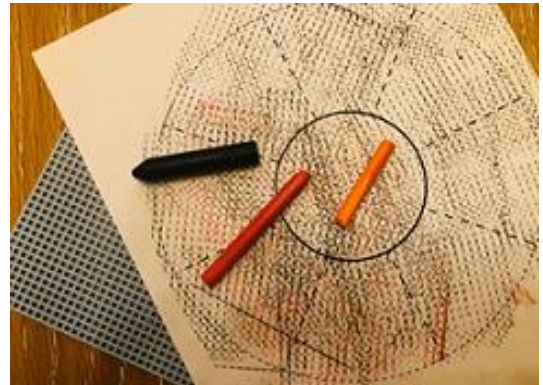
**Step 3:** Place the basket template on a flat surface. Lift two of the side pieces up and tape them together. Continue lifting and taping until you have a basket shape.

**Step 4:** Cut out the fins and attach them to the basket as decorations.



Salmon skin basket by Athabascan artist Audrey Armstrong.

[Image: salmonlife.org/archived/stories/salmon-sewing/](http://salmonlife.org/archived/stories/salmon-sewing/)

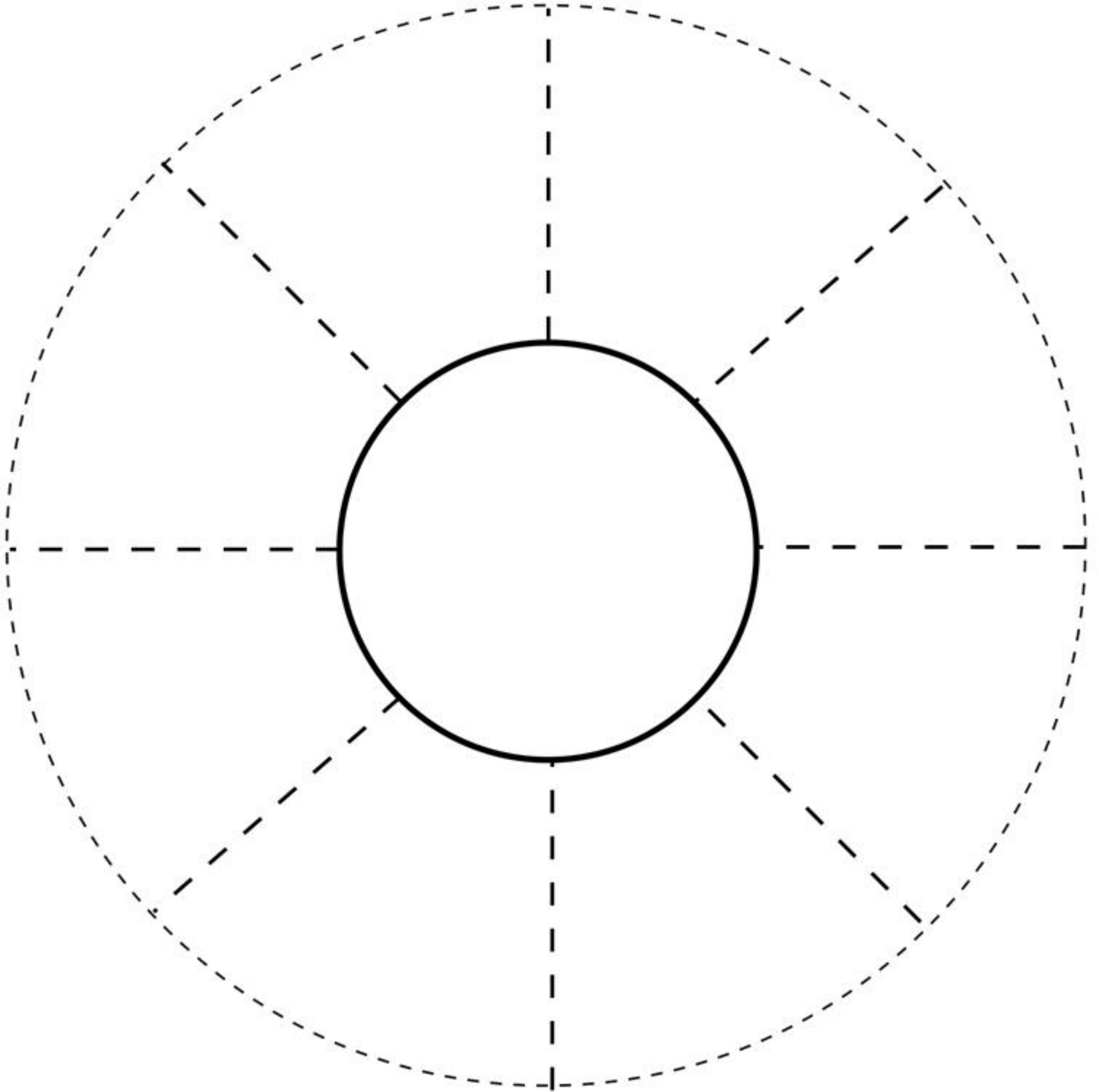


Learn more about fish skin sewing:

[learninglab.si.edu/collections/sewing-salmon/OUJHYvdVhbg7e5Ga#r/](http://learninglab.si.edu/collections/sewing-salmon/OUJHYvdVhbg7e5Ga#r/)

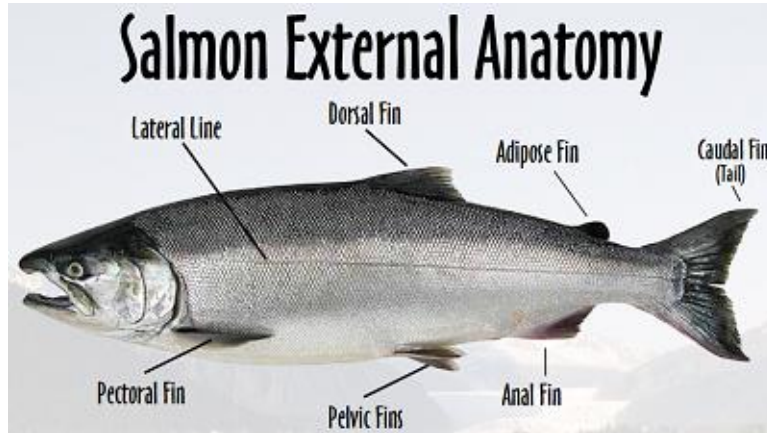
# Fish Skin Basket Template

*Cut out along the dotted lines. Cut around the outer circle and the straight lines.*



# Fin Template

Look at the picture of the salmon's fins.  
Use the fin shapes below to decorate your basket.



*[Image: Alaska Department of Fish & Game.](#)*

