



Willowtwisters

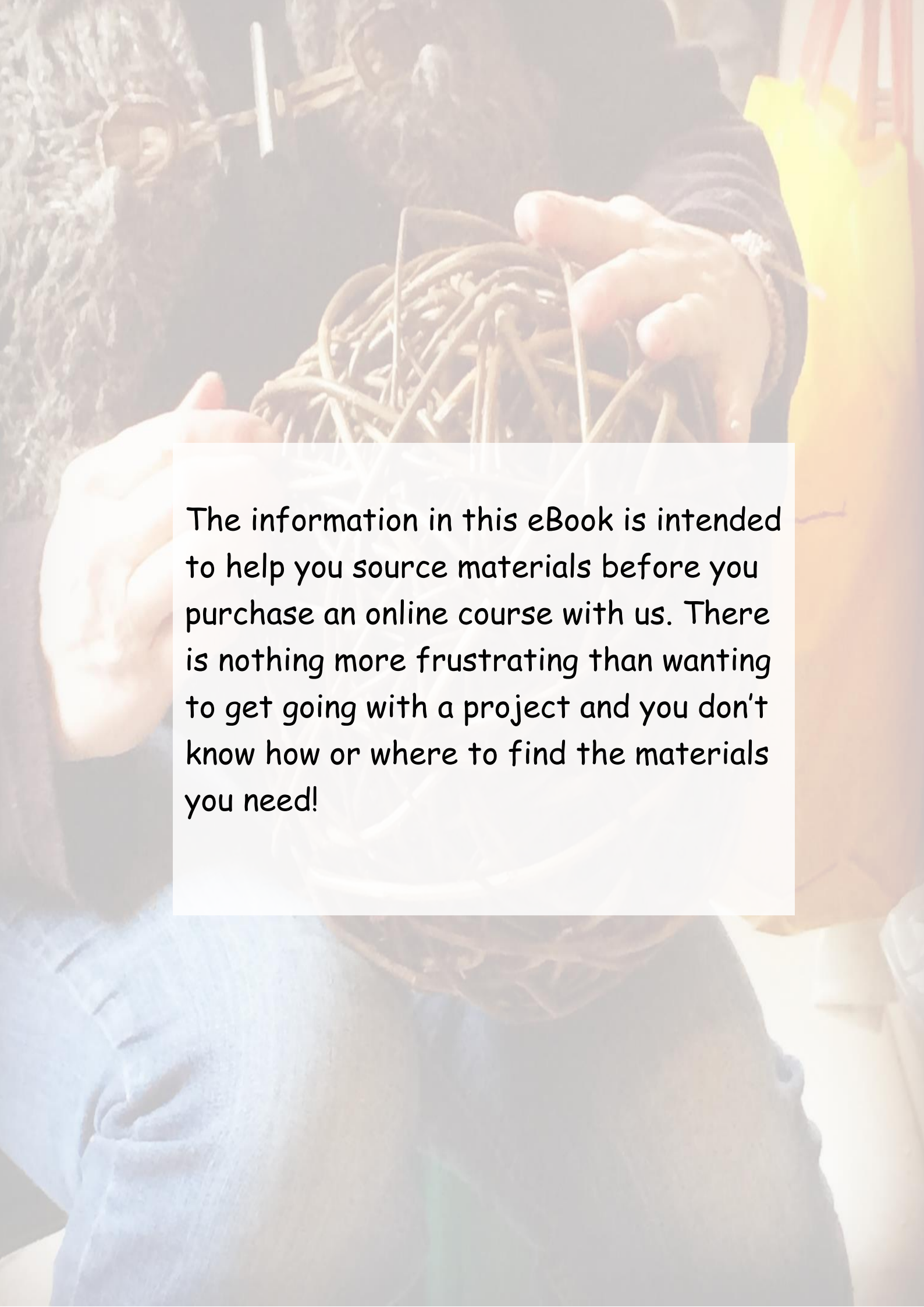
balancing ART with nature

Sourcing materials

For all

our online courses



A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a large, tangled bundle of dried, light-brown plant material, possibly a craft project. The person is wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt and blue jeans. The background is slightly blurred, showing a yellow bag and some wooden structures. A white text box is overlaid on the center of the image.

The information in this eBook is intended to help you source materials before you purchase an online course with us. There is nothing more frustrating than wanting to get going with a project and you don't know how or where to find the materials you need!

For the Deer you will need:

WILLOW - You will need approximately 3 to 4 kilos of 6ft (1.8m) rods and about 5 to 6 kilos of 4ft (1.2m) willow rods. I will also cover willow sourcing and quantities in Lesson 2 of the course '*Willow; types, lengths, sourcing and preparation*'

MILD STEEL RODS - 2 X 2m (7foot) lengths of mild steel round bar.

For the Sphere you will need:

WILLOW - You will need approximately 3 to 4 kilos of 4ft (1.2m) willow rods. I will also cover willow sourcing and quantities in Lesson 2 of the course '*Willow; types, lengths, sourcing and preparation*'

MILD STEEL RODS - **Optional** - only if you want your sphere to be on a stem:
Either : 1 x (approx.) 1.5m (5foot) length of mild steel
Or: 1 x barrier stake.

For the Heron you will need: **NEW COURSE TO BE LAUNCHED SOON!**

WILLOW - You will need approximately 2 to 3 kilos of 4ft (1.2m) willow rods. I will also cover willow sourcing and quantities in the course '*Willow; types, lengths, sourcing and preparation*'

MILD STEEL RODS - 1 X 2m (7foot) length of mild steel round bar.

For the Figurative Female Form you will need:

WILLOW - You will need approximately 3 kilos of 4ft (or 5ft if you can't get hold of any 4ft) (1.2m) willow rods. 2 kilos 6ft (1.8m) willow rods.

I will also cover willow sourcing and quantities in Lesson 1 in the course '*Willow; types, lengths, sourcing and preparation*'

MILD STEEL RODS - 1 X 2m (7foot) length of mild steel round bar.

WILLOW

What to ask for when ordering - I usually buy my willow dried, it then needs to be soaked. Dried willow with the bark left on is referred to as 'Brown'. For example, when you're ordering, you would ask for ie. "5 kilos of 'Brown' Black Maul"

There are many other varieties besides Black Maul that I've often used that are perfectly good for sculpture too. A good supplier will advise you of the next best alternative, if Black Maul is out of stock. But if you ask for 'Brown' it will be the right kind of willow whatever the variety.

Depending on the time of year you could ask for '**Green**' willow - There is a short season in the UK which starts towards the end of December and ends around April time when the willow is harvested. During this period, you can buy 'Green' willow. This means it has been freshly cut and is naturally filled with the moisture it has stored over the year, this willow can be used straight away without soaking which cuts down on preparation time and the hassle of soaking but it's usually only available for about 3 months a year.

Links to willow suppliers:

We have tried to research as many suppliers as I can, who sell the right kind of willow. I'm sorry if there isn't one listed in your area but many of them deliver far and wide. I will add any new suppliers to this ebook, as I come across them. If you search for willow yourself online the key words to use are, basketry willow; dried willow rods, basketry rods, brown willow rods, willow basketry supplies.

In the UK

<https://www.musgrovewillows.co.uk>

<https://englishwillowbaskets.co.uk>

<https://www.willowgrowers.co.uk/>

<http://www.worldofwillow.co.uk>

http://www.willowwithies.co.uk/product_range/index.htm

https://www.homecrafts.co.uk/willow-withies-brown-7kg?gclid=Cj0KCQiArqPgBRCRARIsAPwIHoWKYs67MzsudeWn6-bGngKXzw_sTrzN3Q6KIlRo3sOOgAUyJa_vtAaAi3xEALw_wcB

In France

https://www.osierprod.com/boutique/27-osier_brut

In Canada

<https://thebranchranch.ca/willow-1>

In the USA

http://www.englishbasketrywillows.com/Dried_Willows/index.htm

<http://www.doubleawillow.com/>

<http://www.basketfarmer.com/>

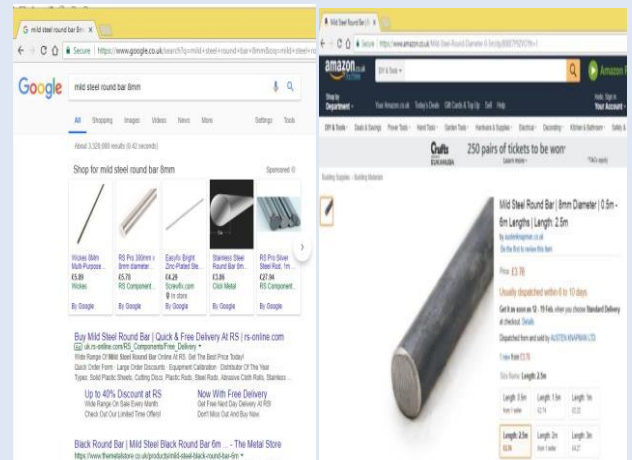
Mild Steel Rods

- For some of the sculpture courses we offer, you will need mild steel rods, 8mm (5/16th of an inch) in diameter - called 'round bar' in the steel trade.
- These steel rods will be used as part of the armature for your sculpture ie the legs of your deer, the stem for your sphere.
- The making of the armature is thoroughly explained in the course. Please be reassured that **no welding is involved**.
- Suppliers may be able to cut them to the right length for you. This will save you some preparation time and effort.
- You may be fortunate enough to know of a local metal fabricators or welding supplier who can order these for you or may even have them in stock. If not, I have listed some links to suppliers and online suppliers who deliver.
- Just remember if you're ordering online or on the telephone you need to ask for 8mm diameter **mild steel** (NOT pro steel, bright steel, or stainless steel – these are much harder to bend.) preferably cut to the desired length to save you cutting it with a hacksaw.

Links to mild steel suppliers

You may be able to find a supplier of your choice on the internet if you search 'mild steel round bar 8mm' you will see they are quite widely available online. I have researched the internet for as many suppliers who show that they supply what you will need.

I'm sorry if there isn't one listed in your area. If you need to search yourself key words include, mild steel round bar, 8mm diameter mild steel, welding supplies, metal fabricators, metal and steel suppliers.



In the UK

<https://www.pyramidsteel.co.uk/> These are the suppliers I use. They will cut to the length you require. You will need to call them to place an order and they deliver across these areas: Surrey, Hampshire, East and West Sussex and the Home Counties

<https://www.metals4u.co.uk/mild-steel/c6/round/c2237/black-round/c54/8mm/p2358>

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Mild-Steel-Round-Diameter-0-5m/dp/B00E7P9Z2S/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1544110991&sr=8-2&keywords=8mm+mild+steel+round+bar

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Round-Bar-Mild-Steel-Diameter/dp/B07GT17Y4N/ref=sr_1_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1544110991&sr=8-3&keywords=8mm%2Bmild%2Bsteel%2Bround%2Bbar&th=1

In The USA

1. <https://www.metalsdepot.com/category/tool-steel-products>

Enter this into their search engine: R15165/16 inch Dia. HR CQ Steel Round

Then choose 5/16ths and 7feet from the drop-down box and don't forget to order 2 from the quantity option box.

2. <https://www.metalsupermarkets.com/phoenix-southwest/>

Go to 'Metals' on the navigation bar then click 'hot rolled steel'; scroll down and click 'round bar'; click 'standard sizes' on the first option in the list; then scroll down and find 0.313 ST A36 ROUND BAR.

3. http://www.coyotesteel.com/products_stainless.shtml

You will need to contact this supplier as they don't appear to take orders online.

Top of left hand menu click 'hot rolled steel bars' choose 'hot rolled round bar' from the drop-down menu, you can then see if you look a little way down the list they supply 5/16th inch

4. <https://www.metricmetal.com/>

Look for 'round bar' on their menu, click the lowest grade and choose 8mm diameter and 2m in length (quantity 2).

Barrier Stake

(for Sphere):

Also referred to as Steel Fencing Pins or Stakes.

They are super cheap and can be found in most builder's merchants and landscaping suppliers the world over.

In the UK

<https://www.sure-green.com/steel-fencing-road-pins>.

<https://www.wickes.co.uk/search?text=steel+fence+stakes>

<https://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/322183459190>

In the USA & Canada

I struggled to find the same kind of stake in the States and Canada but if you're living there you may find them more easily. Or you could probably get them shipped from UK. These are optional anyway so not absolutely necessary. But these would do:

https://www.amazon.com/Fence-Steel-Rebar-Ground-Stakes/dp/B07HYJ2NWG/ref=sr_1_14?ie=UTF8&qid=1544119927&sr=8-14&keywords=steel+garden+stakes

https://www.amazon.com/Steel-Rebar-Ground-Stakes-Heavy/dp/B07HWGPZCQ/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1544119568&sr=8-2&keywords=steel+fencing+stakes



We really hope you find this information useful and it helps if you to decide to try one of our unique online courses in willow sculpture. We're sure you won't be disappointed!

Happy willowing!

Sara and Hanna