



Reed Baskets

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Weaving reeds into baskets has been done for many centuries to carry and store materials and to keep stray items about the home.



Thatched Roofs

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Many thatched roofs are made out of reeds because it is durable and offers insulation from colder weather conditions.



Arrows

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Traditional arrows were made from reeds because they were straight and lightweight.



Instruments

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Reeds are used in many wind instruments, such as the clarinet, saxophone, oboe, and bassoon.

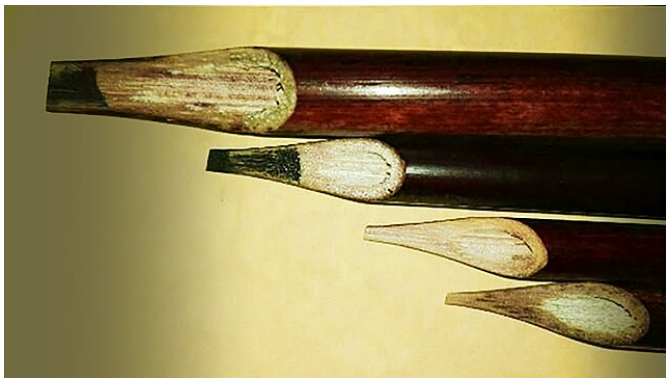




Reed Pens

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A reed pen, invented in Ancient Egypt, was made by cutting and shaping a single reed straw.



Wildlife Habitats

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Reedbeds support a wide variety of animals, with drier areas for voles, water shrews and harvest mice and otters.



Paper (Papyrus)

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Reed can be harvested, cut and the fibre can be made into a type of paper called papyrus.



Rare Species

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Reedbeds are important habitats for the rare and threatened species of birds including Bittern, Marsh Harrier and Bearded Tit.





A natural filter system

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Reeds are good at helping clean our water, filtering and purifying wastewater and providing a buffer against pollutants from industry and farming.



Composting toilets

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Reeds can be incorporated into composting toilet systems, filtering and cleaning the waste out instead of flushing it away into a sewerage system.



Simple Mattresses

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The Romans used to stuff their mattresses with reeds.



Food

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Indigenous people of America would dry the stems of reeds, grind them into a fine powder to make a sweet dish (like marshmallows).





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