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Basic Leathercrafting: All The Skills And Tools You Need To Get Started



Synopsis

• Step-by-step instructions and photos illustrate basic leathercrafting techniques: choosing leather, stamping and decorating, stitching and lacing, and finishing

• Projects in both traditional and contemporary styles

• Detailed how-to information teaches what you need to learn to get started in this fun and popular craft

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Elizabeth Letcavage is the editor/author of Basic Soap Making, Natural Soap Making, and Basic Leathercrafting. She gardens, crafts, and writes in central Pennsylvania. William Hollis has been doing leatherwork for 20 years, specializing in gun leather and historically accurate reproductions. He lives in Etters, Pennsylvania. Alan Wycheck is a concrete specialist and former partner in The SO Factory, a concrete design company. He is also an award-winning photographer and lives in central Pennsylvania.

This is an excellent beginner and intermediate book on leathercrafting. I only have one disagreement with one of the sections (see below). It is a glossy 8-1/2" x 11" book with very clear color photos of everything. I believe it is also available in a lay-flat spiral bound version. The topics covered include the following: -Types of leather-Cutting leather-Tool, glues, lacing & thread-Dyes, finishes, waxes, conditioners-Laying out designs & using patterns for carving-Carving the design and stamping designs-Setting snaps and rivets-Stitching, sewing, lacing-Going through all the

techniques again on two projects:-1. A fancy dyed belt with stamped design and silver conchos2. A fancy case for business cards with stamped design and stitching

A quibble: I do have one disagreement with the book on the section about using neatsfoot oil for un-dyed leather projects. Most leathercrafters rarely use it on new leather for several reasons. 100% pure neatsfoot oil (not the lower-quality "neatsfoot oil compound") is best used only to restore dried out leather (which happens over time) so it is softer and more flexible. For new un-dyed leather, neatsfoot oil is not the best leather conditioner or preservative. The author shows dipping a nice un-dyed holster in a bucket of neatsfoot oil. On anything but very dry, thick leather, this can cause a limp, oily-looking, darkened leathercraft project. I have seen the appearance of some beautiful new leather projects ruined this way. And any adhesive bond or non-synthetic thread stitching you have on the item may come apart or loosen over time due to the absorbed neatsfoot oil. Today there are much better leather conditioners and preservatives that will allow un-dyed leather to stay much firmer than with neatsfoot oil and protect it from moisture and drying. (Many contain beeswax, which was a traditional leather preservative.) Search on for "leather conditioner" or "leather preservative" and read the reviews. Follow the instructions carefully. Only apply it lightly and try on a test scrap first to see the effect on color and any dye you have used. Keep any leather coatings off the stitching and away from any adhesive seams to not dissolve or loosen those. There are several good leather conditioners and preservatives from companies like Lexol. To read all about leather conditioners and preservatives you can see many info pages with a Net search on-leather + "neatsfoot oil" + beeswax + preservative + soften + conditioner

So in summary, a very good leathercraft book with the one disagreement on using neatsfoot oil on your work.

Great book! I'm a total beginner looking to get into working with leather. This book walks you through necessary and popular tools, technique, and some projects. This book is filled with great photos to follow along with. I highly suggest this for any beginner leatherworker.

nice book for novices, I don't like that 's Kindle forces you to share a review before you re read it

Everything I needed to begin leather crafting. I have purchased several book on introduction to leather crafting, but many of the other books tried to describe what this book shows. The photos in this book let me see what other books were trying to explain and now both books made sense. This is definitely the book for some one just starting in leather crafting.

BEST HOW TO BOOK

I thought it was a pretty good read. The author covers many subjects relating to leather and leathercraft without dwelling on any particular subject too long. As a primer and overview this book is excellent.

Useful.

I picked up this book after admiring a beautiful 3 legged chair that a leathercrafter created. I thought...how hard could it be? After going through the instructions I've decided that I would prefer to buy other products than invest in the materials since I only have a kitchen table to work on my crafts. Thank you so much for helping me make up my mind.

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