



LEATHERCRAFT



WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

In this project, you can learn the construction of small leather articles involving carving, stamping and lacing. You can start with simple articles, such as a coaster and learn the skills to advance methods of decorating leather such as filigree and figure carving.

HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN LEARN...

STARTING OUT

- ✿ Learn how to prepare leather
- ✿ Choose designs for your leather project
- ✿ Learn to trace designs onto leather
- ✿ Understand basic tools and how to use them
- ✿ Practice cutting leather
- ✿ Learn how to finish your leather products
- ✿ Learn how to lace

LEARNING MORE

- ✿ Learn how to sharpen a swivel knife
- ✿ Learn how to camouflage with leather
- ✿ Practice smoothing out your decorative cuts
- ✿ Learn how to attach snap buttons
- ✿ Identify different types of leather
- ✿ Understand the history of leather

GOING FURTHER

- ✿ Learn how to tan your own leather
- ✿ Make a leather sculpture
- ✿ Be able to skive your leather
- ✿ Dye your own leather

RESOURCES

- ✿ Leathercraft Unit 1 Project Guide (uwyo.edu/4-h)
- ✿ Advanced Leathercraft Unit 2 Project Guide (uwyo.edu/4-h)

TAKE IT FURTHER!

- ✻ Learn the history of leather
- ✻ Look in your closet and around your house to see what leather items you own
- ✻ Do comparison shopping to see if it is best to make your leather garment or buy them
- ✻ Make a piece of clothing out of leather and model it as part of the Wyoming 4-H State Fashion Revue
- ✻ Talk to your art teacher about the art of leathercraft
- ✻ Visit a leather store
- ✻ Visit a factory that makes boots or other leather products
- ✻ Look for videos on youtube about tanning and other processes in leather making
- ✻ Take a class about leather. Tandy Leather offers classes and shows throughout the United States
- ✻ Visit a saddlemaker

ENHANCE YOUR COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Give a club demonstration on how to use a swivel knife

Host an event at your library to show the public the types of projects you can make with leather

GET INVOLVED IN CITIZENSHIP AND SERVICE

Make leather bookmarks that can be handed out at your local library

Make leather Christmas ornaments to share with your family and friends or donate them to a local hospital or nursing home

LEARN ABOUT LEADERSHIP

Teach how to make a simple leather project at 4-H camp or your club meeting

Make items to display in a craft fair. Share your knowledge with the public at the craft fair

EXHIBIT IDEAS

- ✻ Make a poster displaying the different types of leather tools
- ✻ Create a display showing the different types of leather
- ✻ Create a book or binder of designs that you can use on leather
- ✻ Make something out of leather (bookmark, belt, purse, etc.)
- ✻ Make a display on how leather is tanned
- ✻ Show what different dyes do to leather
- ✻ Do a display on the history of leather
- ✻ Make a sculpture using leather



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