

Leatherwork

Requirements revised: 2013
Worksheet updated: June 2017

It is important to read the merit badge book and to do all the requirements for the merit badge. The merit badge worksheet is a good tool, to help ensure that you accomplish all the requirements.

Please bring the merit badge book, merit badge card, worksheet, and all your work with you to Merit Badge Day.

Remember the Scout Motto and BE PREPARED

1. Do the following:
 - a. Explain to your counselor the hazards you are most likely to encounter while using leatherwork tools and materials, and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, or lessen these hazards.
 - b. Show that you know first aid for injuries or illnesses that could occur while working with leather, including minor cuts and scratches, puncture wounds, ingested poisoning, and reactions from exposure to chemicals such as dyes, cements, and finishes used in leatherworking.

2. Explain to your counselor
 - a. Where leather comes from
 - b. What kinds of hides are used to make leather
 - c. What are five types of leather
 - d. What are the best uses for each type of leather

5. Do ONE of the following:
 - a. Learn about the commercial tanning process. Report about it to your merit badge counselor.
 - b. Tan the skin of a small animal. Describe the safety precautions you will take and the tanning method that you used.
 - c. Recondition or show that you can take proper care of your shoes, a baseball glove, a saddle, furniture, or other articles of leather. Discuss with your counselor the advantages or disadvantages of leather vs. synthetic materials.
 - d. Visit a leather-related business. This could be a leathercraft supply company, a tannery, a leather goods or shoe factory, or a saddle shop. Report on your visit to your counselor.