

LEATHERWORK MERIT BADGE REQUIREMENTS

Additional requirement sheets and helps are available from [ScouterMom.com](https://scoutermom.com).

1. Do the following:

1a. 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

1b. 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

2a. Where leather comes from

2b. What kinds of hides are used to make leather

2c. What are five types of leather

2d. What are the best uses for each type of leather

3. Make one or more articles of leather that use at least five of the following steps:

3a. Pattern layout and transfer

3b. Cutting leather

3c. Punching holes

3d. Carving or stamping surface designs

3e. Applying dye or stain and finish to the project

3f. Assembly by lacing or stitching

3g. Setting snaps and rivets

3h. Dressing edges

4. Braid or plait an article out of leather, vinyl lace, or paracord

5. Do ONE of the following:

5a. Learn about the commercial tanning process. Report about it to your merit badge counselor

5b. Tan the skin of a small animal. Describe the safety precautions you will take and the tanning method that you used.

5c. 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

5d. 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