Leatherwork

Merit Badge Workbook

This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet.

This Workbook can help you organize your thoughts as you prepare to meet with your merit badge counselor.
You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information.
You should use the work space provided for each requirement to keep track of which requirements have been completed,
and to make notes for discussing the item with your counselor, not for providing full and complete answers.
If a requirement says that you must take an action using words such as "discuss", "show",
"tell", "explain", "demonstrate", "identify", etc, that is what you must do.

Merit Badge Counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbooks.

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found in Scouts BSA Requirements (Pub. 33216 – SKU 653801).
The requirements were last issued or revised in 2013 • This workbook was updated in June 2020.

Scout's Name:_____ Unit: _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Phone No.:_____ Email: _____

http://www.USScouts.Org • http://www.MeritBadge.Org

Please submit errors, omissions, comments or suggestions about this **workbook** to: Workbooks@USScouts.Org
Comments or suggestions for changes to the **requirements** for the **merit badge** should be sent to: Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org

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☐ 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.

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☐ 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.

minor cuts and scratches	
puncture wounds	
ingested poisoning	
reactions from exposure to chemicals	

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

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

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

Type	Best Use

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

- ☐ a. Pattern layout and transfer
- ☐ b. Cutting leather
- ☐ c. Punching holes
- ☐ d. Carving or stamping surface designs.
- ☐ e. Applying dye or stain and finish to the project.
- ☐ f. Assembly by lacing or stitching
- ☐ g. Setting snaps and rivets
- ☐ h. Dressing edges

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

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.

Business visited

When working on merit badges, Scouts and Scouters should be aware of some vital information in the current edition of the *Guide to Advancement* (BSA publication 33088). Important excerpts from that publication can be downloaded from http://usscouts.org/advance/docs/GTA-Excerpts-meritbadges.pdf.
You can download a complete copy of the *Guide to Advancement* from http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf.