

# COLTON BACKPACK KIT

MOCHILA COLTON  
SAC À DOS COLTON

3

## KIT CONTAINS:

Pre-Cut Leather & Felt Pieces  
Solid Dee Rings (4)  
Bar Buckle (1)  
Needles (2)  
Thread  
Instructions & Pattern



## YOU WILL NEED:

- Thread Cutter or Scissors

## LEVEL UP YOUR SKILLS WITH TANDY

LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
Includes basic project assembly skills with no hand-sewing or hardware setting required. Plus, learn additional skills like lacing, braiding, and knot tying.	Introduces skills like hand-sewing with pre-punched stitching holes, hardware setting, and edge burnishing.	Build your skills with more added components, project layers, and detail work like edge beveling and edge dyeing.	Can be machine or hand sewn and do not have pre-punched stitching holes. Learn new skills like skiving, wet molding, heat creasing, and more.



# PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE BEGINNING PROJECT.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- Bag Front (A)
- Bag Back (B)
- Roll Flap (C)
- Back Pocket (D)
- Closure (E)
- Shoulder Straps (F)
- Shoulder Cushion (G)
- Buckle Strap (H)
- Hardware Support (I)
- Base Strap (J)
- Handle (K)
- Adjustable Strap (L)
- End Tab (M)
- Keeper (N)
- Strap Cover (O)
- Dee Rings (P)
- Bar Buckle (Q)

## Not Shown:

- Needles (2)
- Thread
- Instructions & Pattern

## SKILLS USED:

- Edge Lock Stitch
- Saddle Stitching
- Backstitching

## OPTIONAL TOOLS:

- Stitching Horse to hold leather pieces while sewing.
- Scratch Awl to widen stitch holes or mark edges.

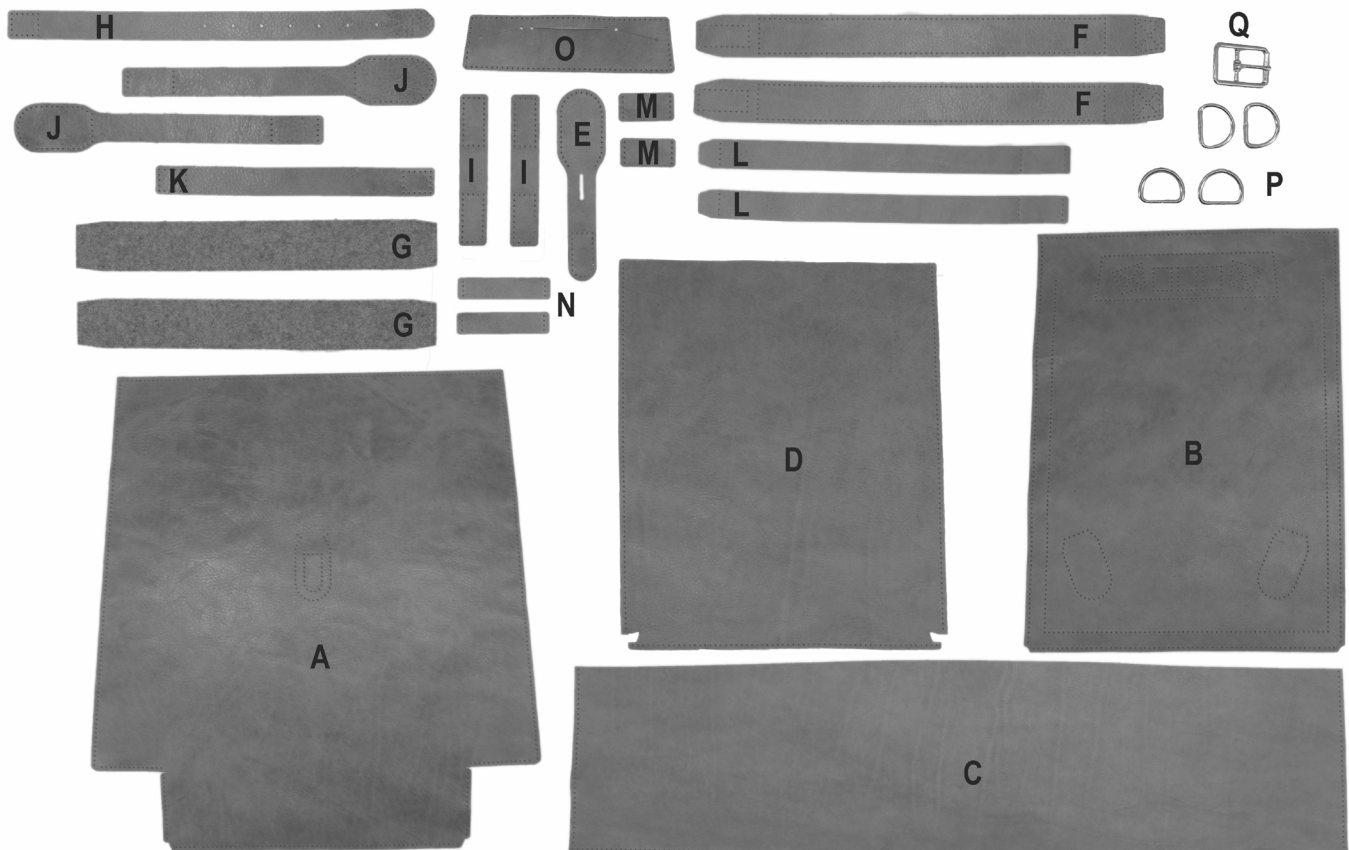
## GLOSSARY:

**FLESH SIDE:** The underside of an animal's hide. On veg-tanned tooling leather, this is the rough side.

**GRAIN SIDE:** The hide's surface that had the hair of the animal. Typically used for carving and stamping.



*Scan this code with your phone to learn about these skills and more!*



## ATTACH SHOULDER CUSHION TO STRAPS:

1. Align your stitch holes of the flesh side of (F) to the felt Shoulder Cushion (G).
2. Pull one needle through the first hole until halfway through your thread. Grab the second needle in your other hand and begin to saddle stitch. (Figures 1 & 2) **See *Level Up Your Skills with Tandy starting on page 13 for detailed stitching instructions.***
3. Continue stitching around the perimeter until you reach your previous stitches, reinforce your first stitch line by stitching over 2-3 of your previous stitches of your previous stitching.
4. Repeat steps 1-3 for the second strap. Note: The felt is intended to be exposed.

Figure 1

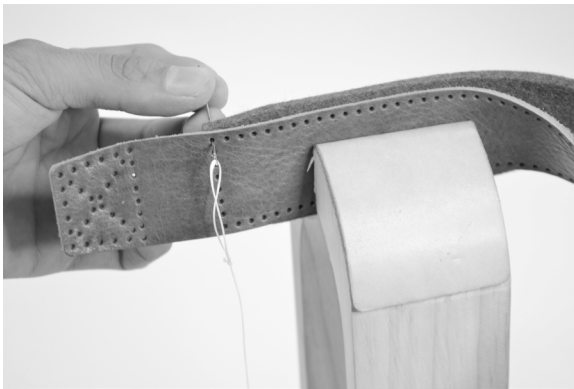


Figure 2



## CREATE THE KEEPER:

5. Curl the ends of Keeper (N) and overlap them so the grain side is hidden under the flesh side of the opposite end then line up the stitching holes. Keeper (N) will turn into a loop. (Figure 3)
6. Begin saddle stitching across. (Figure 4)
7. Finish your stitching by stitching back 2-3 holes to lock in your stitches.
8. Repeat steps 5-7 for the second Keeper (N).

Figure 3

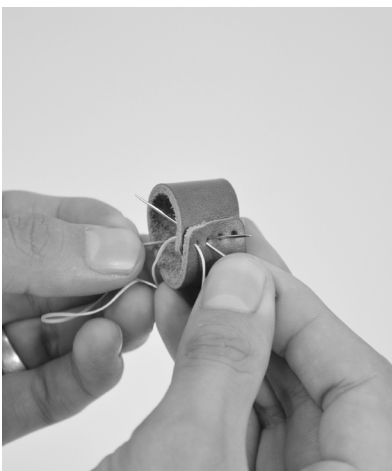


Figure 4



## ATTACH HARDWARE TO SHOULDER STRAPS:

9. Continue with the Shoulder Strap (F). You will need 2 Dee Rings (P) and 1 Hardware Support (I) for each strap.
10. Begin by slipping 2 Dee Rings (P) on to the middle of the Hardware Support (I). (Figures 5 & 6)
11. Fold flesh side of Hardware Support (I) around the bottom of Shoulder Strap (F). Align the stitch holes of Shoulder Strap (F) and Hardware Support (I).
12. Saddle stitch starting at the bottom corner of the box closest to the 2 Dee Rings (P). You should be stitching through 3 layers of leather. (Figure 7)
13. Continue stitching around the perimeter until you reach your first stitches. Overlap your first line of stitches closest to the 2 Dee Rings (P) for added strength. (Figure 8)
14. Repeat steps 10-13 for the second Hardware Support (I).

Figure 5



Figure 6



Figure 7



Figure 8



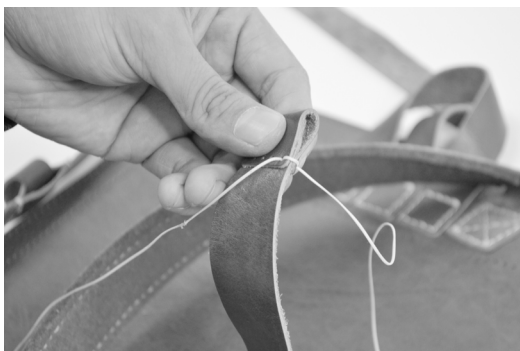
## ATTACH END TAB & ADJUSTABLE STRAP:

15. Fold End Tab (M) and place the tapered end of Adjustable Strap (L) between the flesh sides of the End Tab (M). (Figure 9)
16. Begin with a whip stitch and then saddle stitch across, finish with an edge lock stitch then go into the last hole 1-2 times to lock in the stitches. (Figure 10)
17. Repeat step 15-16 for your second strap.

Figure 9



Figure 10



## ATTACH KEEPER, BASE STRAP, & ADJUSTABLE STRAP:



Adjustable Strap Full View

18. Overlap Base Strap (J), grain side up, on top of the flesh side of Adjustable Strap (L). Align the bottom row of stitch holes of Base Strap (J) to the top row of stitch holes on the end of the Adjustable Strap (L), flesh sides of both pieces facing each other. Be sure both stitch lines for the Adjustable Strap (L) and the Base Strap (J) align before proceeding. Begin stitching on the bottom stitch line of Base Strap (J) and the top stitch line of Adjustable Strap (L). Edge lock stitch the first stitch and continue stitching across until you reach the end. Finish the stitching with another whip stitch. Make sure to go in 1-2 times to lock in your stitches. (Figure 11)

19. Feed the Keeper (N) through the small tab Base Strap (J), nesting it between the gap of the previously sewn stitch holes and the unstitched line of Base Strap (J). The stitches on the Keeper (N), should be hidden between the leather pieces of Adjustable Strap (L) and the Base Strap (J). (Figure 12)

20. Seal the Keeper (N) in place by stitching the remaining stitching line on Base Strap (J) and Adjustable Strap (L). Start and end with a whip stitch. (Figure 13)

21. Repeat step 18-20 for the second strap. See *Adjustable Strap Full View* for completed strap.

Figure 11

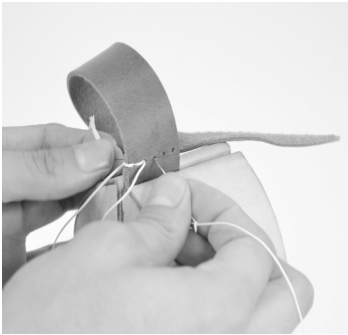
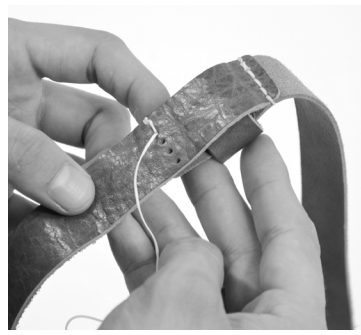


Figure 12



Figure 13



## ATTACH BUCKLE STRAP TO BAG BACK:

22. Line up the stitch holes on Buckle Strap (H) to the top center square of stitch holes on Bag Back (B). The flesh side of Buckle Strap (H) meets grain side of Bag Back (B). (Figure 14)

23. Start at the top left of the square and stitch around the perimeter of the box clockwise. (Figure 15)

24. Once you reach your previous stitching, stitch back over the top row of stitches to lock in the stitches and add strength. Note: For ease of stitching, we recommend using one needle at a time. (Figure 16)

Figure 14



Figure 15

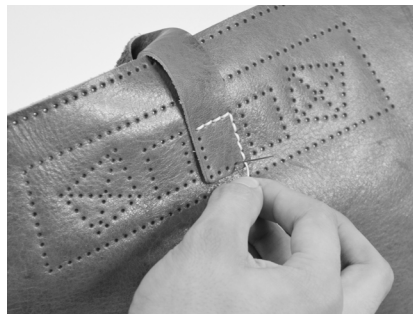
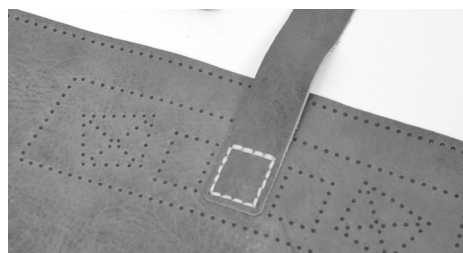


Figure 16



## ATTACH HANDLE TO BAG BACK:

25. Lay the Handle (K) flesh side down and align the stitch holes to the left of Buckle Strap (H) on the Bag Back (B). Begin saddle stitching at the top left stitch hole and stitch across the top stitch holes of the Handle (K) and continue around the perimeter going clockwise. (Figure 17)
26. Once you reach your previous stitching, stitch back over the top row of stitches to lock in the stitches and add strength. Note: For ease of stitching, we recommend using one needle at a time.
27. Take the second end of Handle (K) and fold it over making sure the flesh side aligns with the grain side of Bag Back (B). (Figure 18)
28. Repeat steps 25-26, stitching Handle (K) to Bag Back (B) on the right side of Buckle Strap (H). (Figure 19)

Figure 17



Figure 18



Figure 19



## ATTACH STRAPS TO BAG BACK:

29. Take one of your constructed Shoulder Straps (F) and align the box stitch holes to those next to the Handle (K) on the Bag Back (B). The grain side of the Shoulder Strap (F) should meet the grain side of the Bag Back (B).
30. Starting with the right Shoulder Strap (F), line up your stitch holes and stitch Shoulder Strap (F) to Bag Back (B). Begin your stitching at the bottom left of the square and stitch around the perimeter of the square. (Figure 20)
31. Once you reach the bottom left corner you began stitching at, change directions to the diagonal stitch line that stems from the corner. Continue stitching up this diagonal until you reach the top row of stitching. (Figure 21)
32. Continue stitching over this top line. Backstitch over 2-3 of the previous stitches. Once you reach the top left corner, begin stitching down the second diagonal line.
33. Backstitch 1-2 stitches at the end of the diagonal line. (Figure 22)
34. Repeat steps 29-33 for the left strap.

Figure 20



Figure 21



Figure 22



## ATTACH STRAP KEEPER TO BAG BACK:

35. Slide the straps through the diagonal cut holes of Strap Keeper (O) on either side. The flesh side of Strap Keeper (O) will meet the grain side of Bag Back (B). (Figure 23)
36. Slide the Handle (K) and the Buckle Strap (H) through the large middle slot of Strap Keeper (O). (Figure 24)
37. Slide Strap Keeper (O) down to meet Bag Back (B). Align stitch holes of Strap Keeper (O) and Bag Back (B). Start on the lower left corner of Strap Keeper (O) and begin stitching up the left side and follow the perimeter of Strap Keeper (O). (Figure 25)
38. Once you reach your previous stitches, backstitch 3-4 stitches to lock your stitches in.

Figure 23



Figure 24



Figure 25



## ATTACH BASE STRAP TO BAG BACK:

39. Align the oval shaped stitch holes of the Base Strap (J) to those at the bottom of Bag Back (B). The flesh side of Base Strap (J) will meet the grain side of Bag Back (B). (Figure 26)
40. Saddle-stitch beginning at the top left corner of Base Strap (J), moving across the top and around the oval clockwise. (Figure 27)
41. Once you reach the end, go back over your first line of stitching to reinforce your stitches. (Figure 28)
42. Repeat steps 39-41 for the second strap.

Figure 26



Figure 27

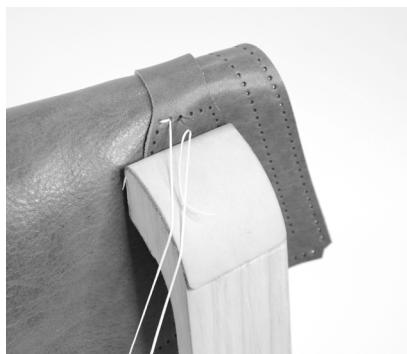
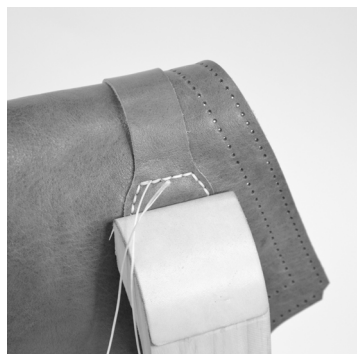


Figure 28





## ATTACH BASE STRAP TO SHOULDER STRAPS:

43. Take the free end of the Base Strap (J) and feed the End Tab (M) through both Dee Rings (P) on the Shoulder Strap (F). You should be feeding the Base Strap (J) flesh side up. (Figure 29)
44. Loop the End Tab (M) on the Base Strap (J) over the top Dee Ring (P) and thread the tab under the bottom Dee Ring (P) on the Shoulder Strap (F). Pull the end of Base Strap (J) to your desired strap length. (Figures 30 & 31)
45. Tuck the loose end of Base Strap (J) into the Keeper (N) to hold it in place. The Base Strap (J) should be grain side up.
46. Repeat steps 43-45 with the second straps.

Figure 29



Figure 30



Figure 31



## ATTACH BACK POCKET TO BAG BACK:

47. Lay the Bag Back (B) flesh side up and place Back Pocket (D) grain side up. The flesh side of Back Pocket (D) should meet the flesh side of the Bag Back (B).
48. Line up the stitch holes on the left side of Back Pocket (D) to the interior stitch line on the left side of the Bag Back (B).
49. Place the Back Pocket (D) one stitch hole below the top stitch hole on the Bag Back (B). Start stitching on the second hole of the Bag Back (B) that aligns with the first hole on the Back Pocket (D). Edge lock stitch off of the first stitch hole of the Back Pocket (D) into the first hole on the Back Bag (B). (Figure 32)
50. Continue stitching to the last stitch hole. When you reach the end, force the last stitch hole of Back Pocket (D) to match up with the last stitch hole on Bag Back (B). Make an edge lock stitch to close. (Figures 33 & 34)
51. Repeat Step 48-50 on the opposite side of the Bag Back (B) and Back Pocket (D)
52. Push up the bottom of Back Pocket (D) to line up the bottom stitch holes to those of Bag Back (B). Perform an edge lock stitch to start and stitch across the bottom of the Back Pocket (D), ending with another edge lock stitch.

Figure 32

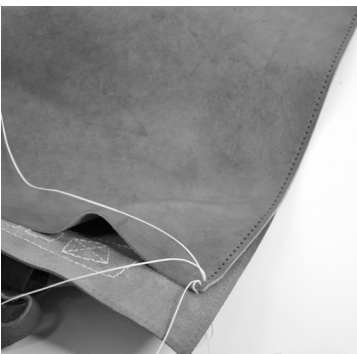


Figure 33

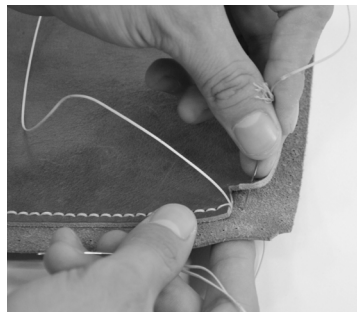
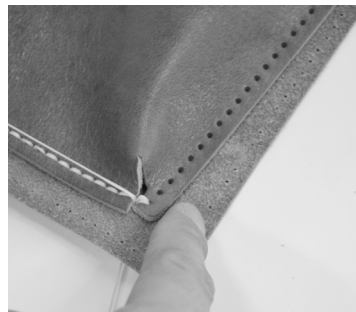


Figure 34



## ATTACH BAR BUCKLE TO FRONT CLOSURE:

53. Take the long end of Front Closure (E), grain side up, and feed it through the end without the roller bar. (Figure 35)
54. Pull the Front Closure (E) through the Bar Buckle (Q) until the prong pokes through the large cutout and fold it around the middle of the buckle. Prong should be poking through the cutout and roller bar should be facing up. (Figures 36 & 37)

Figure 35



Figure 36



Figure 37



## ATTACH FRONT CLOSURE TO BAG FRONT:

55. Flip the Front Closure (E) so that the flesh side is facing up. Place the smaller side of Front Closure (E) grain side down to meet the grain side of Bag Front (A). Align the stitch holes to those on the interior of Bag Front (A). (Figure 38)
56. Begin stitching at the corner and stitch across the flat edge following the perimeter of Front Closure (E). (Figure 39)
57. Overlap the first row of stitches on Front Closure (E) to lock them in for added strength. (Figure 40)

Figure 38



Figure 39

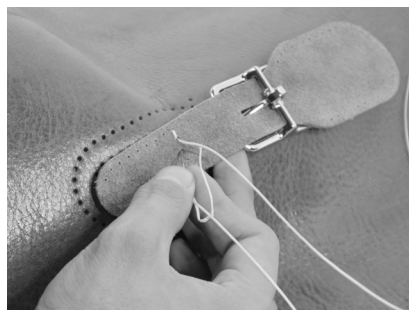


Figure 40



## ATTACH FRONT CLOSURE TO BAG FRONT:

58. Fold the larger end of the Front Closure (E) back over on top of itself so that the grain side is facing up. The flesh sides of Front Closure (E) should now be facing each other. Align the outer stitch holes of Front Closure (E) to those on Bag Body (A). (Figure 41)

59. Starting at one of the sides next to the Bar Buckle (Q), edge lock stitch off the first stitch hole of the Front Closure (E) to the stitch hole on the Bag Front (A). Continue to saddle stitch around the perimeter of Front Closure (E). (Figure 42)

60. Finish with an edge lock stitch following the same instruction from step 59. (Figure 43)

Figure 41



Figure 42

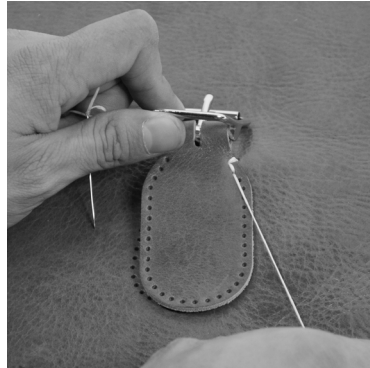


Figure 43



## STITCH CORNERS OF BAG FRONT:

61. Bag Front (A) should be flesh side down. Take the bottom left corners of Bag Front (A) and match the top horizontal line of the cutout to meet the vertical line of the square cutout. The stitch holes of the top horizontal line should overlap to match the bottom vertical edge. This should form a corner for the front of the bag. (Figure 44)

62. Starting on the inside edge of the stitch-holes, saddle stitch across the line towards the outside of Bag Front (A). Make sure to backstitch your first 1-2 stitches. (Figures 45 & 46)

63. Backstitch the last 2 stitch holes on the outside of Bag Front (A) to close the corner.

64. Repeat Steps 61-63 on the opposite corner of Bag Body (A).

Figure 44



Figure 45



Figure 46



## ATTACH BAG FRONT TO BAG BACK:

65. Start on the top right of Bag Front (A) and the top left of Bag Back (B). The flesh side of Bag Front (A) should overlap the grain side of the Bag Back (B) slightly to align the stitch holes. (Figure 47)

66. Begin saddle stitching, a few holes and then backstitch 2-3 holes. Continue stitching down the left side and end with 2-3 backstitches. (Figure 48)

67. Repeat Steps 65-66 on the opposite side, as well as the bottom seam to seal the bag the Bag Front (A) to Bag Back (B). (Figure 49)

68. Once you finish all edges of the bag, go back to the bottom corners and perform an edge lock stitch to close the gap. Place your needles into the last stitch hole on the bottom and stitch into the last stitch hole on both the right and left side. Repeat this stitch 3-4 times. (Figure 50)

Figure 47



Figure 48



Figure 49

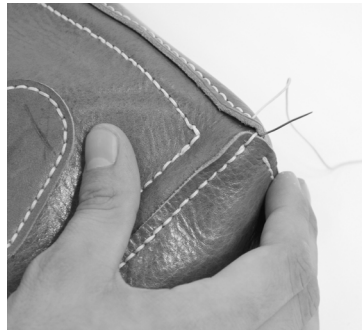


Figure 50



## CLOSE ROLL FLAP:

69. Take the Roll Flap (C) and roll it on top of itself with the flesh sides facing each other. Align your stitch holes by slightly overlapping the flesh side of one side to meet the grain side of the opposite side. This should turn Roll Flap (C) into a large loop. (Figure 51)

70. Saddle stitch Roll Flap (C) to itself, backstitching the first and last stitches. Note: For durability, you can choose to perform an edge lock stitch off the top edge of Roll Flap (C). The top edge is the one without the stitch holes. (Figures 52 & 53)

Figure 51



Figure 52



Figure 53



## ATTACH ROLL FLAP TO BAG BODY:

71. Locate the 2 notches at the base of Roll Flap (C) on the opposite side of your seam. These notches match up to the side seam that combines the Front Bag (A) to the Back Bag (B). The seam of Roll Flap (C) will be positioned at the front of the bag. (Figure 54)
72. Align the stitch holes of Roll Flap (C) and those of the constructed bag body. To align these stitch holes set Roll Flap (C) slightly inside of the constructed bag body. The stitch holes of the bag body should be visible from the outside with the stitch holes of Roll Flap (C) hidden behind them. (Figure 55)
73. Begin saddle stitching at the side notches, stitching across the Bag Back (B), whip stitching 1-2 times over the back seams on the constructed bag body. (Figure 56)
74. Repeat stitching until you reach your first few stitches and backstitch 2-3 stitches to lock them in.

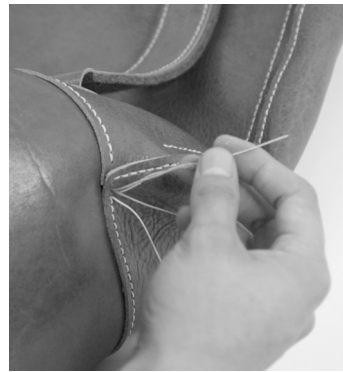
Figure 54



Figure 55



Figure 56



**CONGRATULATIONS, YOU'VE CREATED A COLTON BACKPACK!**



# LEVEL UP YOUR SKILLS WITH TANDY!

## HOW TO THREAD YOUR NEEDLES:

1. Cut your thread to 5 times the length of the seam you are sewing and feed one end through the eye of one needle, moving over to the opposite end of the thread. Repeat step 1 for the second needle. (Figure 1)
2. Take the point of your needle and push it through the longer portion of the thread. Once the needle is all the way through, give a gentle tug to lock thread into place. (Figure 2)
3. Repeat Step 2 with the second needle. There should now be a knot behind both needles to secure the thread in place as you are stitching. (Figure 3)

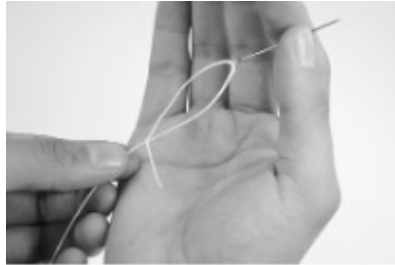
Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



## HOW TO EDGE LOCK STITCH:

An edge lock stitch joins two separate pieces of material over a flat edge to prevent unraveling and can be used at the start or end of a saddle stitch.

1. Insert one of the threaded needles through the first hole. Pull the needle through until there are equal lengths of thread on either side.
2. Take one of the needles and make a loop that goes around the outside edge of leather. Insert the opposing needle through the opposite side to close the loop. (Figure 1)
3. Resume saddle stitching as normal. (Figure 2)
4. To finish with an edge lock stitch, reverse your needles and place them back through the last stitch hole. Making a loop that goes around the outside edge of leather.
5. Another example of an edge lock stitch can be used when all edges are flush and the thread loop goes around the outside edge of all layers of leather. (Figure 3)

Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



## HOW TO SADDLE STITCH:

The saddle stitch is a strong stitch that is made up of two independent stitches that lock together. This allows the stitches to hold even if a stitch is broken.

1. Thread your needles with a length of thread that is 5x the length of the line you are stitching. *Tip: Use a Stitching Horse to secure your pieces in place and allow for easier sewing*
  2. Holding one threaded needle in each hand, begin saddle stitching by inserting one needle into the first hole of your stitching line. Pull the needle and thread through the hole until you have equal lengths of thread on either side. (Figure 1)
  3. With one needle in each hand, begin weaving the needles through the next stitch hole, one needle at a time. It is important to be consistent with your motions, always starting each stitch with the same hand. *We will start with the left-hand needle for each stitch for these instructions.* Push the left needle through next hole in your stitch line.
  4. Once the left needle is through the hole, insert your right-hand needle through the same hole, being sure to pull the left thread back to avoid piercing it with the right needle. Pull the thread from both needles all the way through the hole and give the thread a gentle tug to tighten up the stitches. (Figure 2)
- Optional:* If your stitch holes are large enough, you can insert your needles in the same hole at the same time. Cross your needles into an "X" as you push them through the hole. Be sure to always place the same side needle on the top and bottom for each stitch, then pull the needles through and tighten up the thread with a gentle tug.
5. Repeat Steps 3-4 until you reach the end of your stitch line, starting with the same side needle for each stitch. Be sure to give the thread a light tug at the end of each stitch to keep even tension.

Figure 1

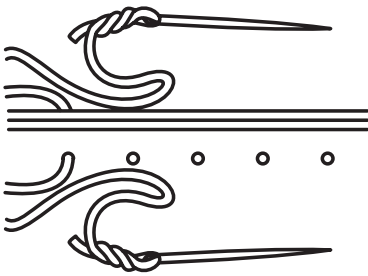
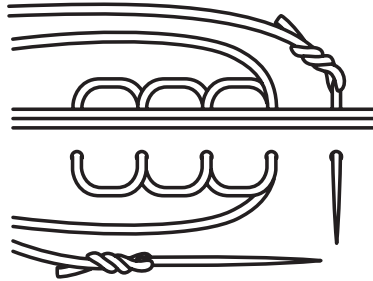


Figure 2



## HOW TO BACKSTITCH:

1. When you reach the final hole in your stitch line, reverse the direction of your needles and saddle stitch back through the last 2-3 holes in your line. If your stitch line meets back where the line began, you can simply saddle stitch over your first 2-3 stitches without reversing the direction of your needles to lock them in. *Tip: It may be tighter to get the needles through the holes that have already been stitched, you can use a pair of needle nose pliers to help pull the needles through if needed.* (Figures 1-3)
2. To finish, pull the remaining thread to the less visible side of your work, snip off the excess then tuck it into the last hole.

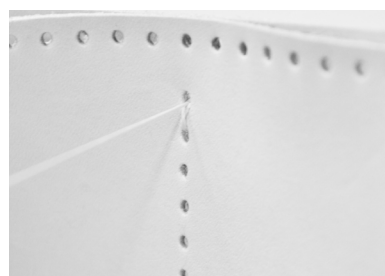
Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3





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