

# DILLON TRIFOLD KIT

## KIT CONTAINS:

Pre-Cut, Pre-Punched Leather  
Needles (2)  
Thread  
Instructions & Pattern



## BEFORE YOU BEGIN, YOU WILL NEED:

- Thread Cutters or Scissors

### ⚠ CAUTION

**CUT HAZARD:** Functional sharp points. **CHOKING HAZARD:** Small parts.  
Keep out of reach of children.

# PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE BEGINNING PROJECT.

**NOTE:** ALL STAINING, DYEING, CONDITIONING, AND TOOLING SHOULD BE DONE PRIOR TO ASSEMBLY.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED?

Main Exterior (A)  
Main Interior (B)  
T-Pockets (C)  
Left Pocket (D)  
Right Pocket (E)  
Center T-Pockets (F)  
Center Front Pocket (G)

### **Not Shown:**

Needles & Thread  
Instructions & Pattern

## SKILLS USED:

Burnishing  
Backstitch  
Edge Lock Stitch  
Saddle Stitch

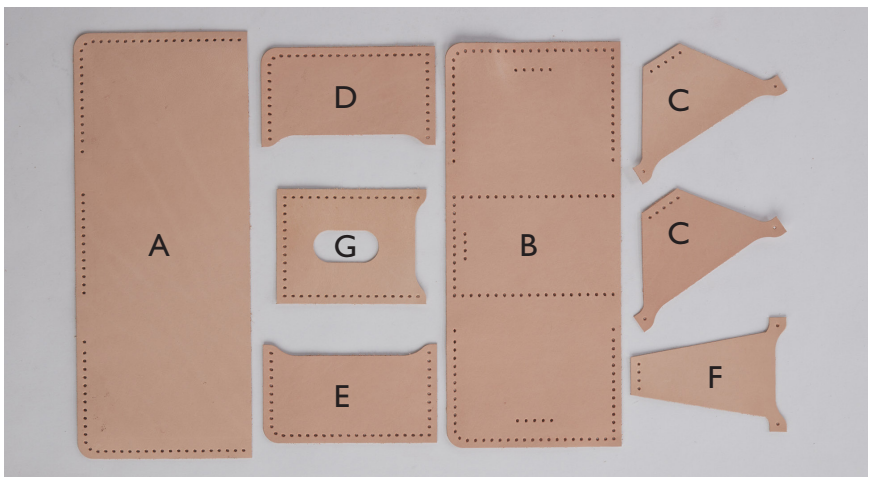
## OPTIONAL TOOLS:

Binder Clips or Preferred Adhesive to secure leather pieces.  
Stitching Horse to hold leather pieces while stitching.  
Scratch Awl to widen stitch holes.  
Emery Board to sand edges.  
Multi-size Wood Slicker to burnish edges.  
Gum Tragacanth to burnish edges.  
Cotton Swab to apply Gum Tragacanth.

## 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.



## OPTIONAL: BURNISHING EDGES

1. Before assembling, burnish top edges of the T-Pockets (C & F), top edges of Left and Right Pockets (D & E), and top/side edges of Center Front Pocket (G). All other edges to be burnished when complete. **See *Level Up Your Skills* starting on page 10 for detailed instructions on How to Burnish Edges.**

## ATTACHING T-POCKETS

2. Align the four punch holes on Center-T-Pocket (F) to those on Main Interior (B), grain sides up. Saddle stitch the four punch holes and finish with a backstitch to secure. Trim excess thread (Figures 1-4) **See *Level Up Your Skills* starting on page 9 for detailed instructions on How to Thread Your Needle, Saddle Stitch, and Backstitch.**

Figure 1

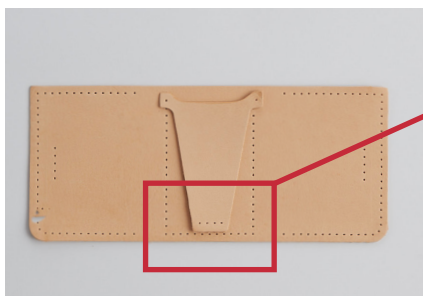


Figure 2

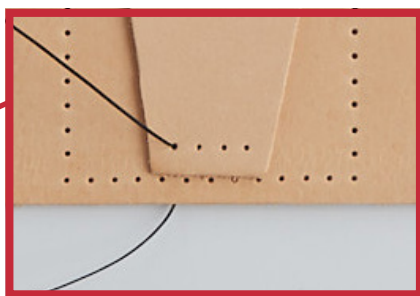


Figure 3



Figure 4



3. Align one of the T-Pockets (C) along the 5 punch holes on right side of Main Interior (B), grain sides up. Saddle stitch the T-Pocket (C) to Main Interior (B). Backstitch to secure. (Figures 5-8)

Figure 5

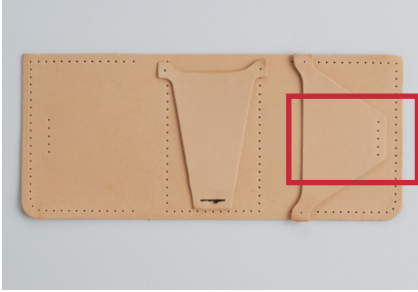


Figure 6



Figure 7



Figure 8



4. Repeat step 3 on the left side. (Figures 9-10)

Figure 9

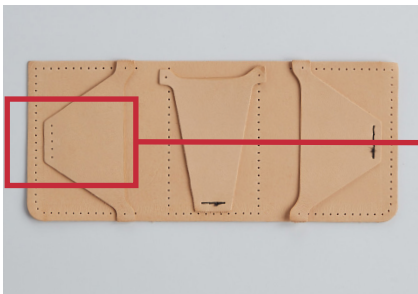


Figure 10



## ATTACHING CENTER FRONT POCKET

**NOTE:** ONLY stitch the sides of the Center Front Pocket (G) to the Main Interior (B). The bottom of Center Front Pocket (G) will be stitched later.

5. Align the Center Front Pocket (G) on top of the Center-T-Pocket (F). (Figure 11)
6. Saddle stitch the left side of the center pockets. Finish with an edge lock stitch and 2-3 backstitches to secure. Be sure to stitch between the Center Front Pocket (G) and the Center-T-Pocket (F). (Figures 12-15) **See *Level Up Your Skills starting on page 12 for detailed instructions on How to Edge Lock Stitch.***
7. Repeat step 6 on the right side. (Figure 16)

Figure 11

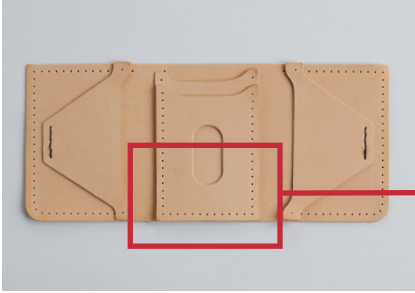


Figure 12

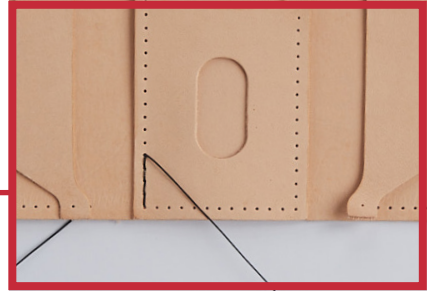


Figure 13



Figure 14



Figure 15



Figure 16



## ATTACHING LEFT AND RIGHT POCKETS

8. Align Left Pocket (D) on the left side of Main Interior (B). Saddle stitch starting at the top left corner. Continue through the holes of the T-pocket until attached. Be sure to stitch between the Left Pocket (D) and T-Pocket (C). End with an edge lock stitch and 2-3 backstitches. (Figure 17-21)

9. Repeat step 8 on the right side. (Figure 22)

Figure 17

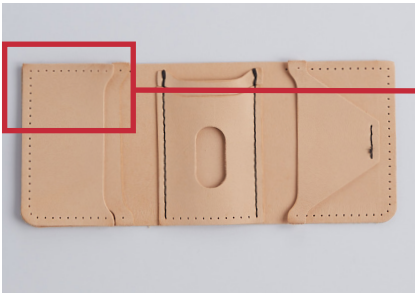


Figure 18

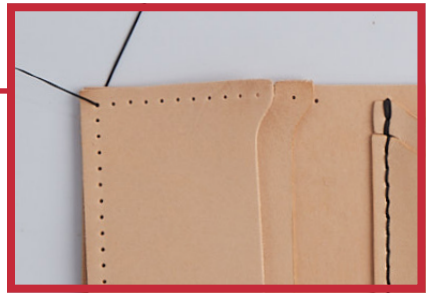


Figure 19

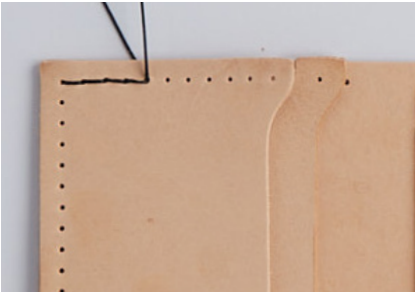


Figure 20

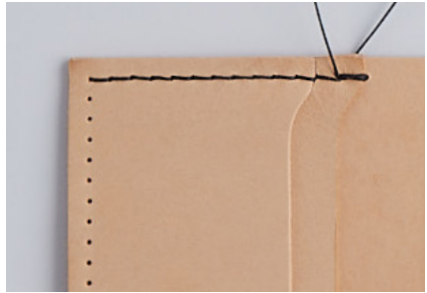


Figure 21



Figure 22



## ATTACHING MAIN BODY TO MAIN INTERIOR

10. Align the Main Exterior (A) to the assembled Main Interior (B), flesh sides together.
11. Saddle stitch the bottom of Center Front Pocket (G). Finish with 2-3 backstitches. (Figures 23-24)

Figure 23



Figure 24



12. Begin with an edge lock stitch in the top corner of the Right Pocket (E). Saddle stitch around. End with 2-3 backstitches. (Figures 25-27)
13. Repeat step 12 on the left side. (Figure 28)
14. **OPTIONAL:** Burnish all outer edges.

Figure 25



Figure 26





Figure 27



Figure 28



**CONGRATULATIONS, YOU'VE MADE  
A DILLON TRIFOLD!**



\* Images are for constructions purposes only. Colors may vary.



# LEVEL UP YOUR SKILLS WITH TANDY

## HOW TO THREAD NEEDLES

1. Cut your thread to 5 times the length of the stitch line.
2. Feed one end through the eye of one needle. (Figure 1)
3. Take the point of the needle and push it through the longer portion of the thread. Repeat and push needle through again. (Figures 2-3)
4. Pull long side of thread toward the eye of the needle to form a knot. (Figure 4-6)
5. Repeat steps 2-4 on the other side with other needle.

Figure 1

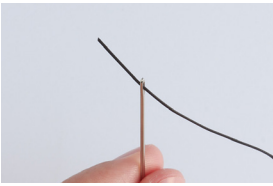


Figure 2

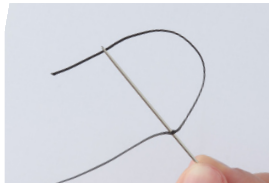


Figure 3

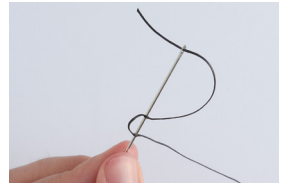


Figure 4

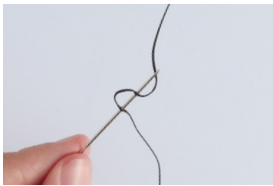


Figure 5



Figure 6



## HOW TO BURNISH EDGES

Burnishing consists of sealing edges with product by using hand tools and burnishing agents. The burnishing process gives smooth and clean edges to any veg-tan project.

1. Rub emery board gently across the edges so that the leather is even and smooth. Dust off. (Figure 1)
2. Use a cotton swab to gently seal the edges with gum tragacanth burnishing agent. Let air dry. (Figure 2)
3. Burnish edges with a wood slicker. (Figure 3)
4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 until you reach desired outcome.

Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



## HOW TO BACKSTITCH

The backstitch is a securing stitch that goes over existing stitches to prevent unravelling.

1. At the final hole in the stitch line, reverse the direction of the needles and saddle stitch back through the last 2-3 holes in the line. If the stitch line meets back where the line began, simply saddle stitch over the first 2-3 stitches without reversing the direction of the needles to lock them in. **Pro Tip: If needles are difficult to pull through stitches, use a pair of needle nose pliers to help pull the needles through.**
2. To finish, pull the remaining thread to the less visible side of the work. Snip off the excess, and tuck it into the last hole.

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. Holding one threaded needle in each hand, begin saddle stitching by inserting one needle into the first hole of stitch line. Pull the needle and thread through the hole until there are equal lengths of thread on either side. (Figure 1) **Pro Tip: Use a stitching horse to secure your pieces in place and allow for easier sewing.**

2. 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 start 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.

3. 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 each side 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.

4. Repeat Steps 3-4 until you reach the end of the 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

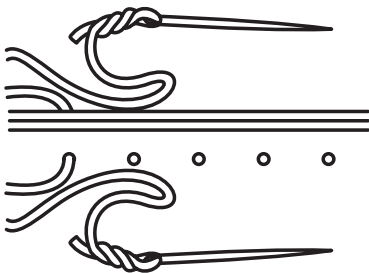
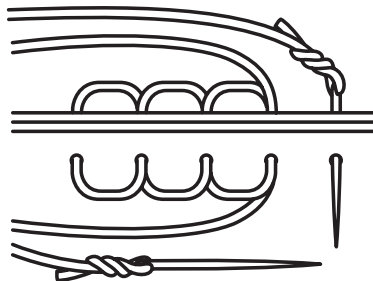


Figure 2



## HOW TO 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.

### **To start with an edge lock 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 needle and make a loop that goes around the outside edge of leather. Insert opposing needle through the opposite side to close the loop. (Figure 1)
3. Resume stitching as normal. (Figure 2)

**To finish with an edge lock stitch,** reverse needles and place them back through the last stitch hole making a loop that goes around the outside edge of leather.

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



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