

LEVEL

3

CLIFTON MESSENGER KIT

KIT DE MENSAJERO CLIFTON
TROUSSE DE SAC MESSENGER CLIFTON

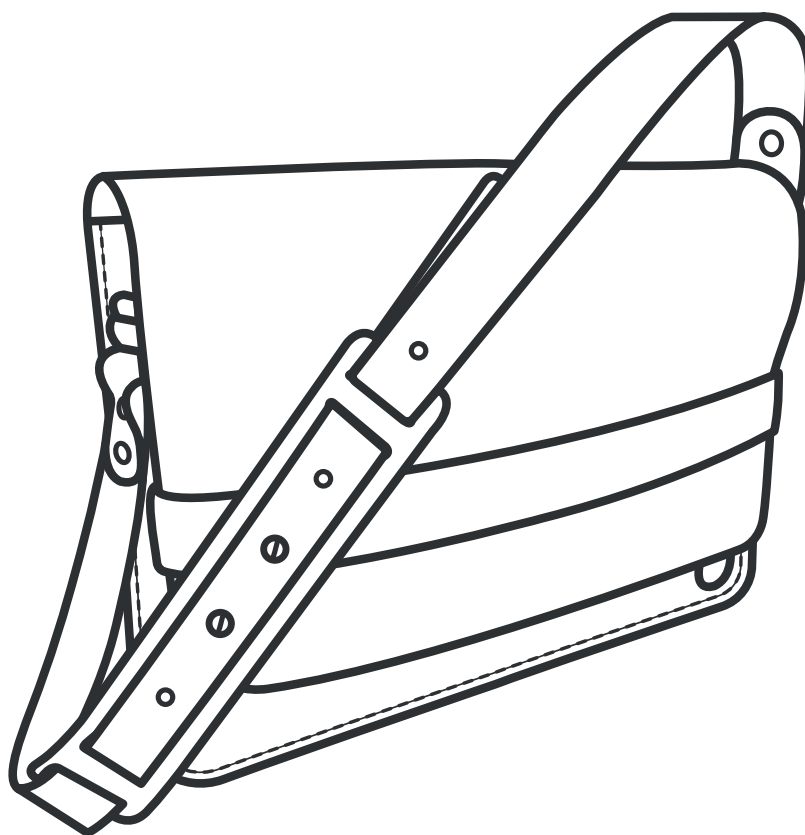
KIT CONTAINS:

- Pre-Cut, Pre-Punched Leather
- Large D-Ring (2)
- Medium D-Ring
- Screw Posts (6)
- Needles (2)
- Thread
- Instructions & Pattern



French and Spanish
Instructions available
online at:

TANDYLEATHER.COM
TANDYLEATHER.CA



YOU WILL NEED:

- Medium Flathead Screwdriver

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.



WARNING:

CHOKING HAZARD - Small parts. For adult use only. This product is not intended for use by children. CONTAINS FUNCTIONAL SHARP POINT - Adult supervision recommended.

PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE BEGINNING PROJECT.

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

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- Front Panel (A)
- Back Panel (B)
- Top Flap (C)
- Middle Gusset (D)
- Left Gusset (E)
- Right Gusset (F)
- Retention Strap (G)
- Shoulder Strap (H)
- Gusset D-Ring Anchor (I)
- Flap D-Ring Anchor (J)
- Shoulder Pad (K)
- Large D-Ring (L)
- Medium D-Ring (M)
- Medium Open Back Screw Post (N)
- Large Open Back Screw Post (O)
- Needles & Thread

Not Shown:

Instructions & Pattern

SKILLS USED:

- Backstitch
- Edge Lock Stitch
- Saddle Stitch



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

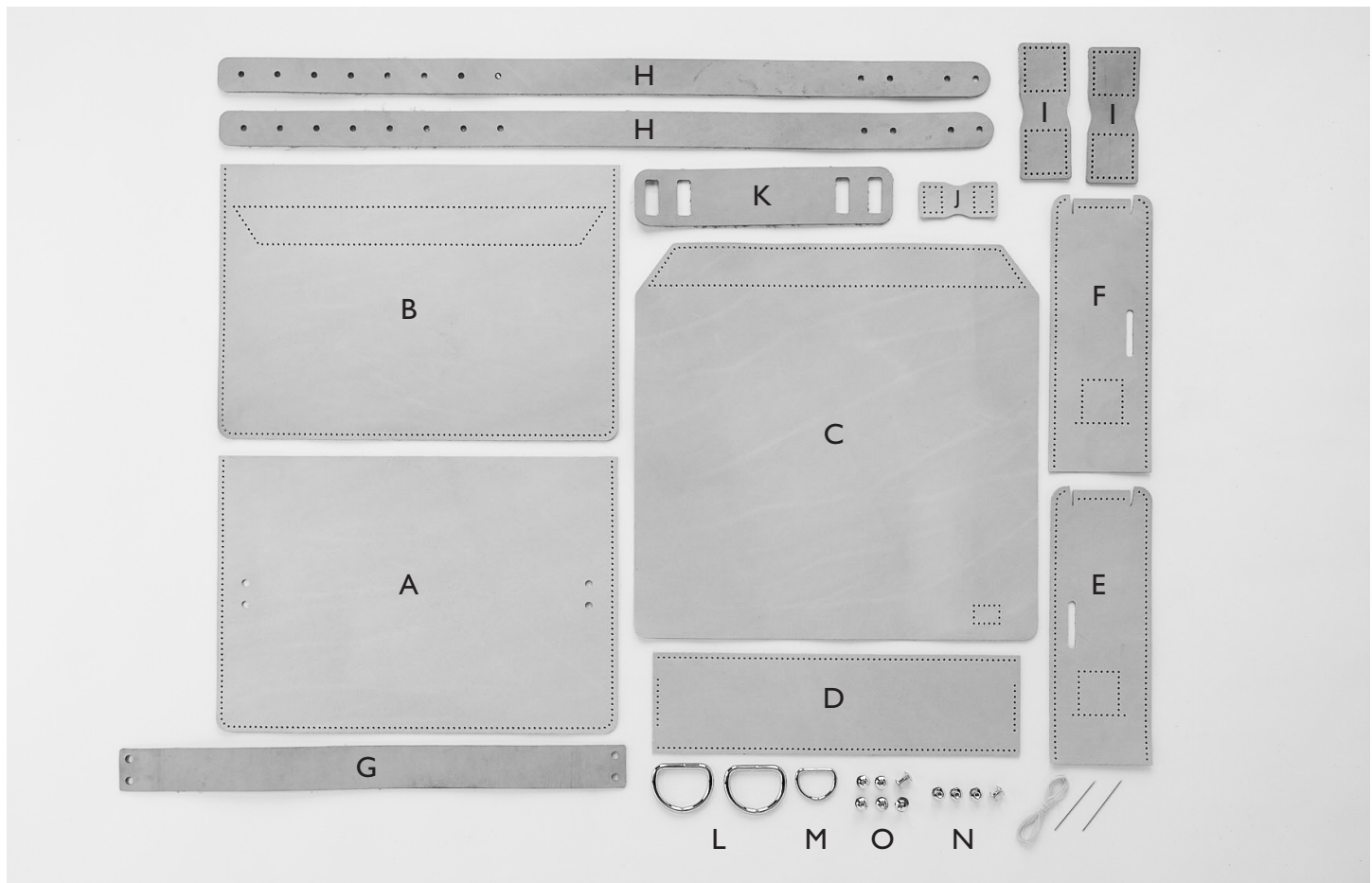
RECOMMENDED TOOLS:

- Stitching Horse to hold leather pieces while stitching.
- Scratch Awl to widen stitch holes or mark edges.
- Emery Board to sand edges.
- Multi-size Wood Slicker to burnish edges.
- Gum Tragacanth to burnish edges.
- Cotton Swab to apply burnishing solution.
- Leather Glue or Double Sided Tape to secure leather pieces.
- Loctite® Threadlocker to secure hardware.

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

NOTE: Burnish all individual pieces before assembling. Then burnish final product to desired results.

1. Rub emery board gently across the edges so that the leather is even and smooth. Dust off.
2. Use a cotton swab to gently seal the edges with Eco-Flo® Gum Tragacanth Burnishing Agent. Let air dry.
3. Burnish edges with a wood slicker.
4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 until you reach desired outcome.

ATTACHING ANCHORS TO GUSSETS

NOTE: This part of the assembly process is difficult. Use force to thread needles through the holes. Use an awl to widen the holes if needed.

5. Slide Large D-ring (L) onto one of the D-Ring Anchors (I). Fold the D-Ring Anchor (I) so that the flesh sides meet. (Figure 1)
6. Align the holes from D-Ring Anchor (I) to those on the Left Gusset (E). The Large D-Ring (L) should be facing towards the shorter end of the Left Gusset (E). **Pro Tip: Use glue or double-sided tape to hold both sides of the D-Ring Anchor (I) together, then secure them onto the Gusset (E) for stitching.**
7. Starting on the bottom right corner; saddle stitch to the Left Gusset (E). Stitch across and up through the pre-punched holes. (Figure 2) **Pro Tip: Secure your work with a stitching horse. See Level Up Your Skills on page 14 for Details on how to Thread Needles and Saddle Stitch.**
8. Then edge lock stitch through the extra hole on Left Gusset (E). Stitch twice through the “extra” hole. (Figure 3) **See Level Up Your Skills on page 14 for Details on how to Edge Lock Stitch.**

Figure 1

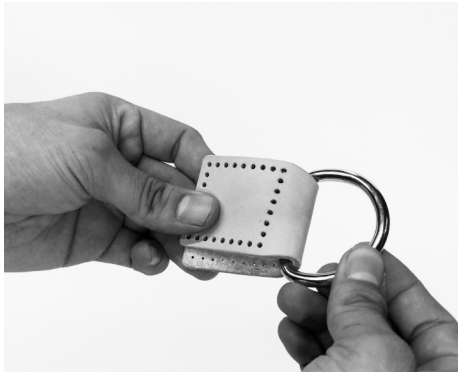


Figure 2

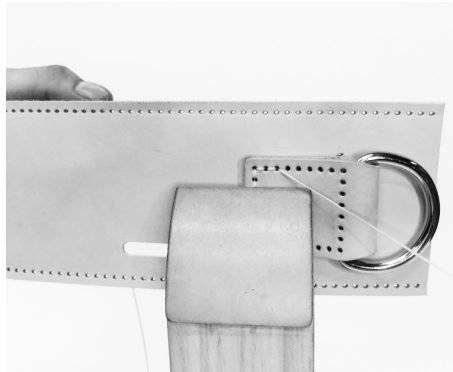
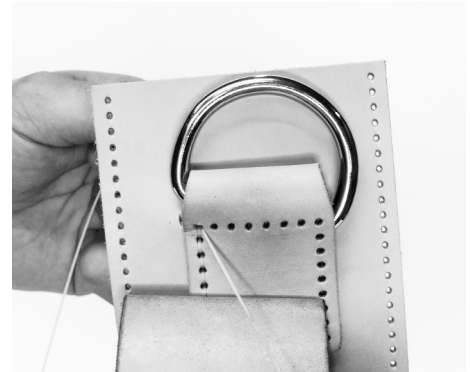


Figure 3



9. Saddle stitch across the top of the D-Ring Anchor (I). Repeat edge lock stitch twice through the "extra" hole. (Figures 4-6)

10. At the end of your stitch line, go over the initial 2-3 stitches to secure.

11. Repeat steps 5-10 with the Right Gusset (F).

Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6



ATTACHING LEFT AND RIGHT GUSSETS TO MIDDLE GUSSET

12. Take the Middle and Left Gusset (D & E), slide the Middle Gusset (D) underneath the pre-cut slots to connect the Left Gusset (E). Align the holes on both pieces and make sure that the "flaps" on the sides of the Left Gusset (E) go over the Middle Gusset (D). (Figures 7-8)

13. Saddle stitch through the center holes of the Left Gusset (E) and Middle Gusset (D). (Figures 9-10)

14. Repeat steps 12-13 on the other side with Right Gusset (F) and Middle Gusset (D).

Figure 7

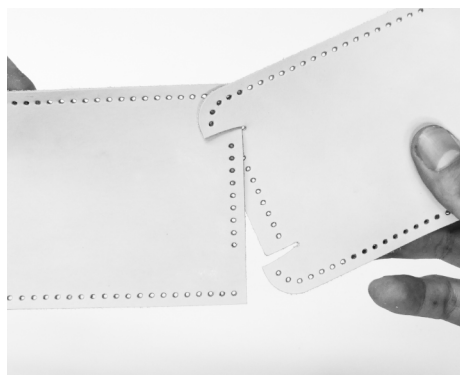


Figure 8

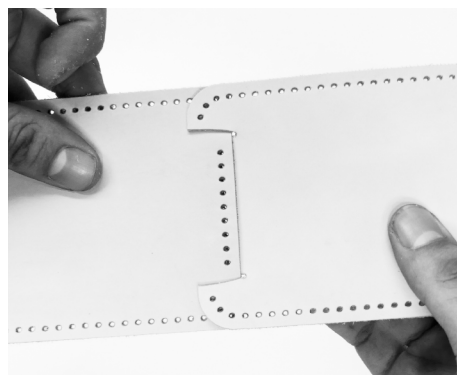
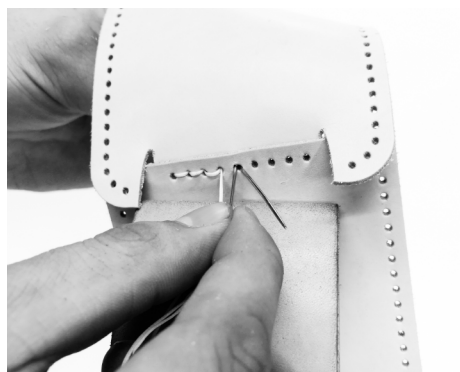


Figure 9



Figure 10



ATTACHING FLAP D-RING ANCHOR TO TOP FLAP

15. Insert the Medium D-Ring (M) through the Flap D-Ring Anchor (J). Flesh sides should meet. (Figure 11)

Pro Tip: Use glue or double-sided tape to secure the D-Ring Anchor before attaching onto the flap.

16. Align the D-Ring Anchor (J) to the flesh side of the Top Flap (C). The Medium D-Ring (M) should be exposed. (Figure 12)

17. Starting in the corner, saddle stitch all the way around to attach the D-Ring anchor (J) to the Top Flap (C). (Figures 13-14)

Figure 11



Figure 12

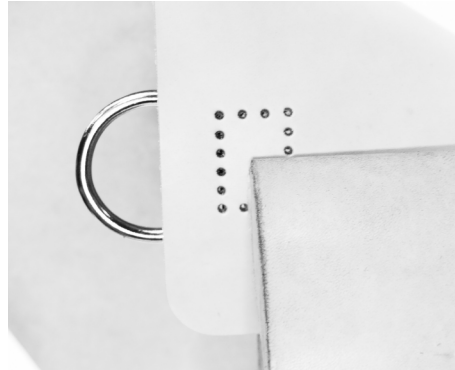


Figure 13

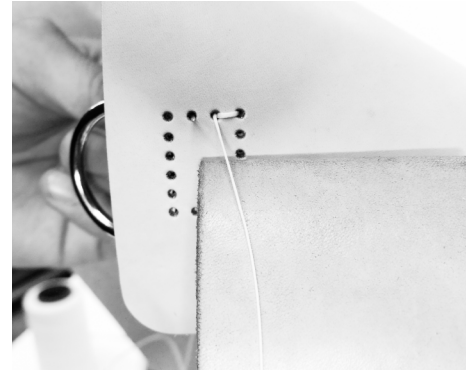
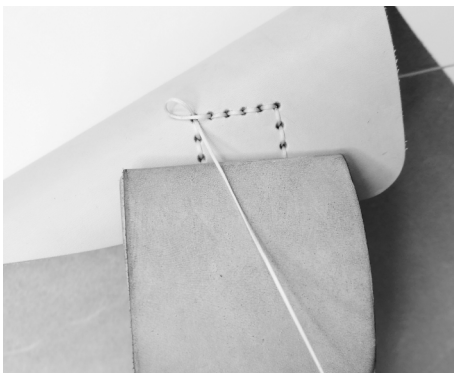


Figure 14



ATTACHING TOP FLAP TO THE BACK PANEL

18. Place the Top Flap (C) flesh side down over the grain side of Back Panel (B) so the pre-cut holes of the trapezoid shape align. (Figure 15) **Pro Tip: Glue or use double-sided tape to secure.**

19. Starting from the bottom left corner; saddle stitch upwards and then across the top, down the side and across the bottom holes until the Top Flap (C) and Back Panel (B) are completely attached. At the end, stitch over initial 2-3 stitches to secure. (Figures 16-17)

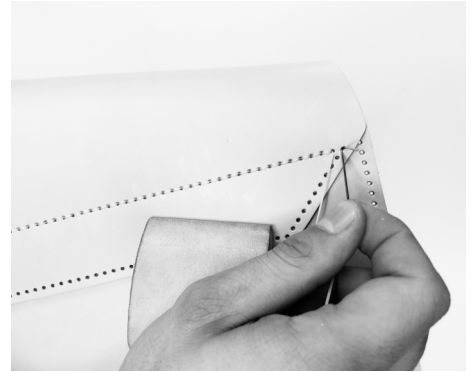
Figure 15



Figure 16



Figure 17



ATTACHING ASSEMBLED GUSSETS TO FRONT PANEL

20. Place the flesh side of the assembled Left Gusset (E) against the flesh side of the Front Panel (A). There should be two punch holes visible from the Front Panel (A) through the oblong punch hole of Left Gusset (E). (Figure 18)

Figure 18



NOTE: Because a large amount of thread is needed to complete the stitching for this part, it may be best to divide the stitching into thirds, so the thread does not continually get caught or tangled.

21. Start with an edge lock stitch at the top corner. Then continue to saddle stitch across. (Figures 19-21)

22. At the corner where Left Gusset (E), Front Panel (A) and Middle Gusset (D) meet, take your time and ensure all holes align. This section can be very challenging. As you round the corner, stitch between Left Gusset (E) and Middle Gusset (D). Backstitch 2-3 stitches to secure the edge of the Left Gusset (E). **See Level Up Your Skills on page 15 for Details on how to Backstitch.**

NOTE: You should not be stitching through three layers of leather.

23. Continue to stitch across the Middle Gusset (D) & Front Panel (A). (Figures 23-24)

24. At the corner where the Middle Gusset (D), Front Panel (A) and Right Gusset (F) meet, stitch off the edge of Middle Gusset (D). Stitch between Middle Gusset (D) and Right Gusset (F). Backstitch to secure both pieces. Be sure to keep stitch holes aligned. Double check if needed. (Figure 25)

25. Continue saddle stitching the Right Gusset (F) to Front Panel (A) then perform an edge lock stitch. (Figure 26)

Figure 19



Figure 20

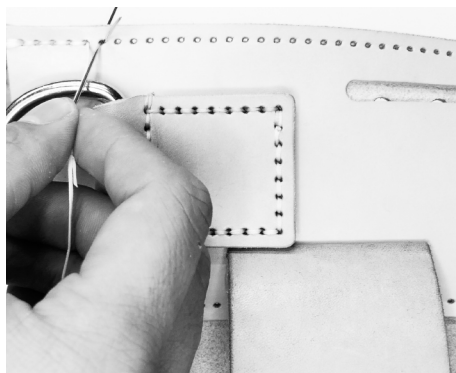


Figure 21



Figure 22



Figure 23

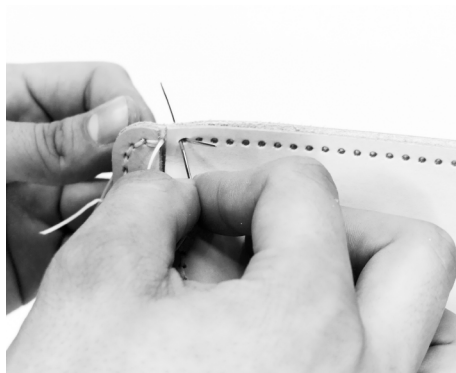


Figure 24



Figure 25



Figure 26



ATTACHING BACK PANEL TO GUSSETS

26. With the flesh sides together, align the holes of the Back Panel (B) with those on the Left Gusset (E).

Pro Tip: *Glue or use double-sided tape to hold pieces together.*

NOTE: You will need to move the Flap out of the way to start your stitching.

27. Start with an edge lock stitch in the top corner of Back Panel (B) and Left Gusset (E). Transition to saddle stitching until you reach the corner. (Figures 27-29)

28. At the end of Left Gusset (E), saddle stitch off the edge and in between the Left and Middle Gusset (E & D). Backstitch on both edges to secure. (Figure 30)

29. Proceed with saddle stitching the Middle Gusset (D) to Back Panel (B). At the corner where Middle Gusset (D) and Right Gusset (F) meet, backstitch in between each piece and then proceed with saddle stitching Right Gusset (F) to Back Panel (E). At the end, perform an edge lock stitch. (Figures 31-33) **Pro Tip:** *After all of the pieces are attached, burnish all of the edges on both the front and back.*

Figure 27

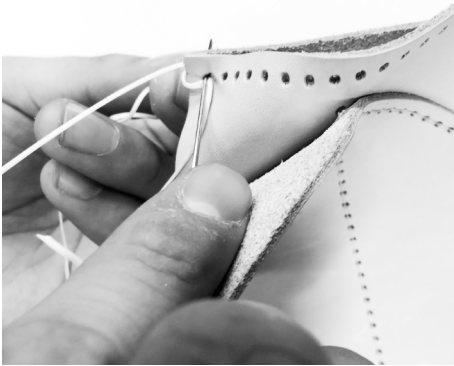


Figure 28

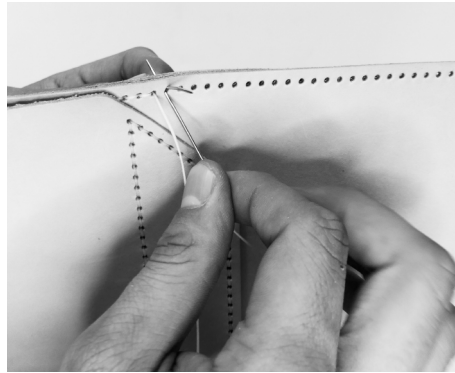


Figure 29

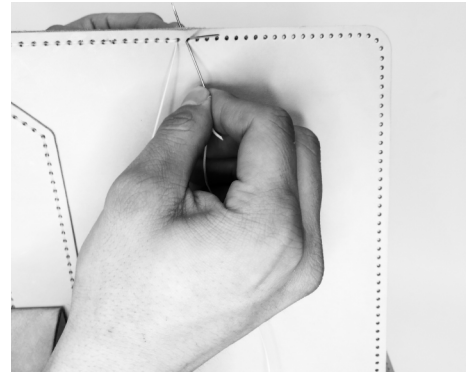


Figure 30

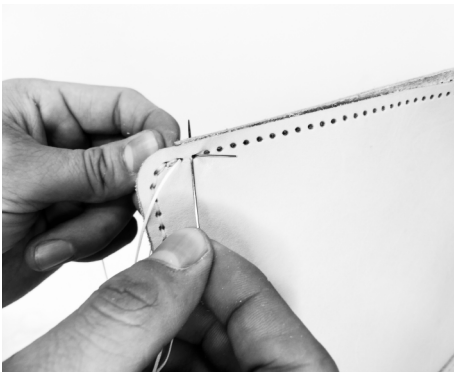


Figure 31



Figure 32

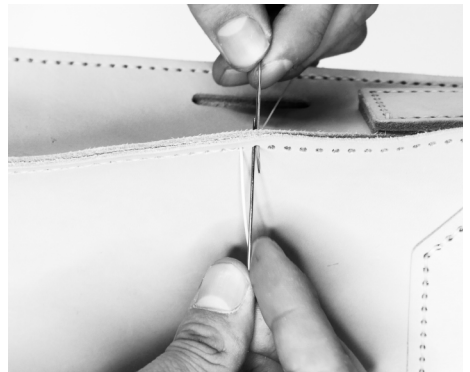


Figure 33



ATTACHING RETENTION STRAP

OPTIONAL: Use an edge beveler to smooth out the leather edges on the Retention Strap (G). Then burnish edges to desired finish. (Figure 34)

30. Slide the Retention Strap (G) through the oblong slots on the gussets. Grain side should be exposed. (Figure 35)

31. Gather four sets of Medium Open Back Screw Posts (N). Insert through the pre-cut holes to secure the Retention Strap (G) so the flat side of the post is facing outwards. Use a flathead screwdriver to secure the posts from inside of the bag. Repeat this process for all four screw posts. **Pro Tip: Apply a small amount of the Loctite® Threadlocker onto the threads of the post to secure.** (Figures 36-37)

Figure 34



Figure 35

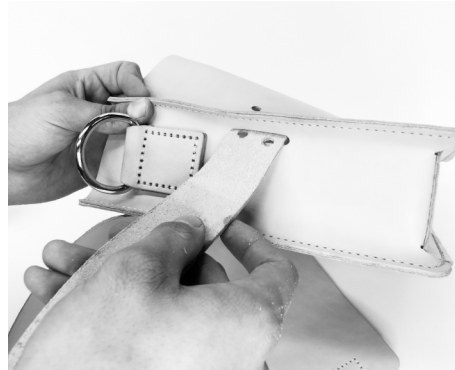
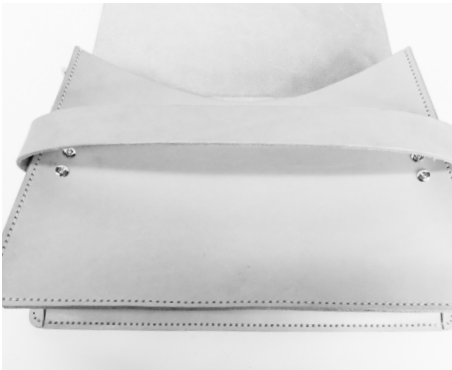


Figure 36



Figure 37



ASSEMBLING AND ATTACHING THE SHOULDER STRAP AND PAD

32. Use one Shoulder Strap (H) and insert the side with eight holes through the first slot on the Shoulder Pad (K) and up through the second slot hole. Be sure the grain side is exposed or facing out. (Figure 38)

33. Pull the Shoulder Strap (H) across the Shoulder Pad (K) and down through the first opposite slot and up through the second or last slot. (Figures 39-40)

Figure 38

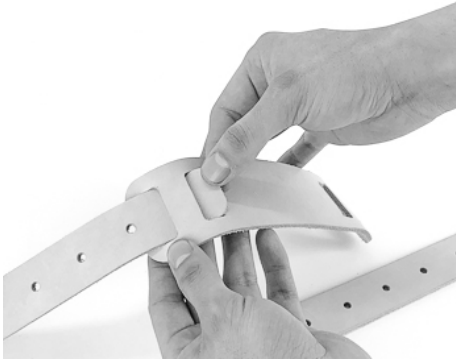
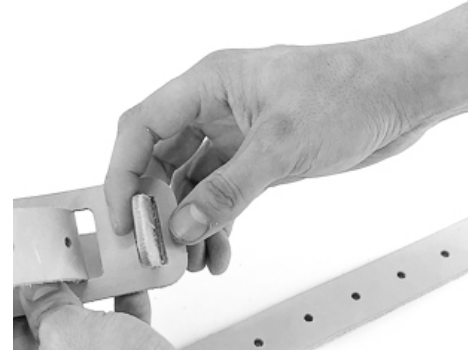


Figure 39



Figure 40



34. Now take the other Shoulder Strap (H) and start from the opposite side of the Shoulder Pad (K). Insert the side with the eight punch holes through the first slot and up through the second slot. This may be a bit tricky and tight, but both straps should fit snug and secure. (Figures 41-42)

35. Pull the Shoulder Strap (H) towards the opposite slot holes. (Figure 43)

Figure 41



Figure 42



Figure 43



36. Align the holes of the straps to desired length and be sure the straps are even.

37. Gather two Large Open Back Screw Posts (O). Starting from the inside of the straps, push the post through the holes of both straps. Insert the screw and secure with a flathead screwdriver. Repeat with the other set of Large Open Back Screw Posts (O). (Figures 44-47)

Pro Tip: Apply a small amount of Loctite® Threadlocker on to the screw to secure hardware.

Figure 44



Figure 45

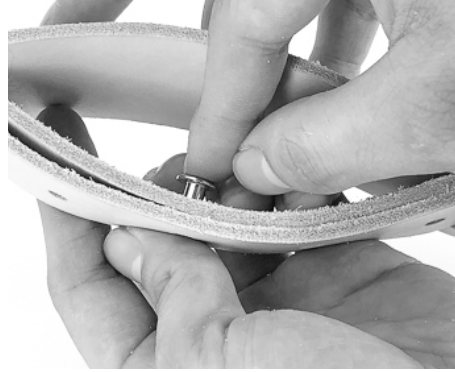


Figure 46

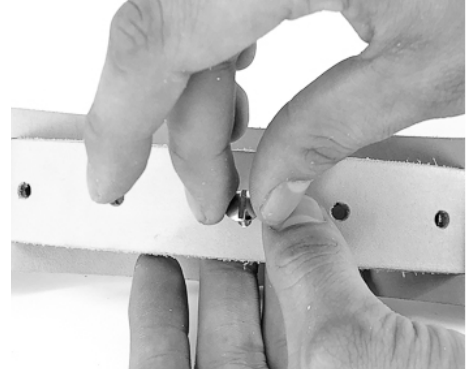
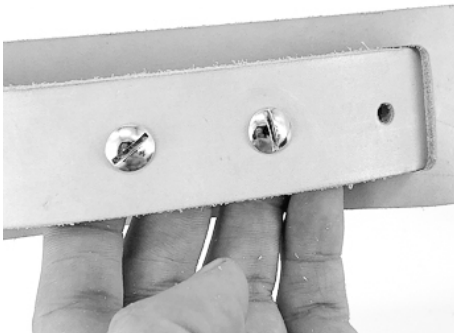


Figure 47



ASSEMBLING AND ATTACHING THE SHOULDER STRAP AND PAD

38. Slide each end of the Shoulder Strap (H) through the Large D-Ring (M) hardware on either side of the Main Body. Attach with two of the Large Open Back Screw Posts (O). Repeat on the opposite side. (Figures 48-50)

Figure 48



Figure 49



Figure 50



CONGRATULATIONS, YOU'VE MADE A CLIFTON BACKPACK!



* Images are for construction purposes only. Colors may vary.

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)

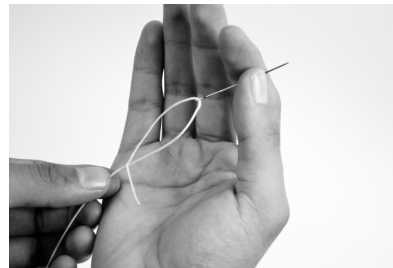
Figure 1



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

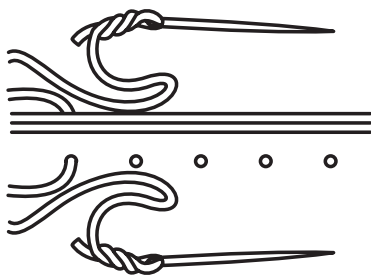
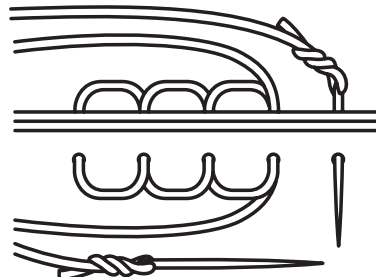


Figure 2



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





FOR MORE PATTERNS, PROJECTS, AND TIPS,
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