

EXPLORER BRACELETS KIT

LEVEL

2

KIT CONTAINS:

Pre-Cut Pre-Punched Leather
Buckle
Button Stud
Eyelet
Swivel Snap
Needles (2)
Thread
Instructions & Pattern



BEFORE YOU BEGIN, YOU WILL NEED:

- Eyelet Setter
- 3/32 & 3/16 in. Round Drive Punch or Rotary Punch
- Mallet
- Knife
- Scratch Awl
- Straight Edge

⚠ 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.

IN THIS KIT YOU WILL...



TRANSFER PATTERNS

Use paper template to transfer pattern and mark punch holes onto leather.



CUT LEATHER

Cut leather to specific size and/ or trim corners for decorations and embellishment.



PUNCH HOLES

Punch holes into leather for hardware and other items before constructing project.



SET HARDWARE

Set rivets, snaps, and/ or eyelets into leather before final assembly.



STITCH LEATHER

Use a variety of stitching techniques to secure leather together and finish project.

CUSTOMIZE YOUR KIT BY...



TOOLING LEATHER

Stamp and carve leather into unique designs and creations.



DYEING LEATHER

Get creative by dyeing, staining or painting projects to add a personal touch.



BURNISHING EDGES

Give your project a clean professional look by burnishing edges with gum traganath or other solution.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

WRAP BRACELET

Bracelet (A)
Eyelet (B)
Swivel Snap (C)

SNAP CUFF

Cuff (D)
Keeper (E)
Button Stud (F)

BUCKLE BRACELET

Bracelet (H)
Plate (I)
Buckle (J)

Not Shown:

Cuff Template (G)
Instructions & Pattern

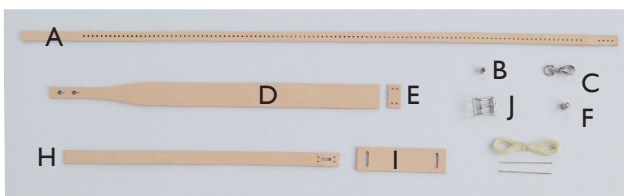
OPTIONAL TOOLS:

Binder Clips or 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.
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

1. Before assembling, burnish all edges to desired finish. *See Level Up Your Skills starting on page 9 for detailed instructions on How to Burnish Edges.*

WRAP BRACELET

STITCHING BODY

NOTE: There is a gap in the stitch holes on one end, this is for the swivel snap. Alterations will be made to the other side.

1. Slide Swivel Snap (C) onto Bracelet (A) and fold flesh sides together securing the Swivel Snap (C) between the two stitch lines. (Figure 1)
2. Cut thread 5 times the length of stitch line, and thread both ends with harness needles. **See Level Up Your Skills starting on page 9 for Detailed Instructions on How to Thread a Needle.**
3. Start with a backstitch, and saddle stitch across entire bracelet. Finish the last hole with a backstitch. (Figures 2-4) **See Level Up Your Skills starting on page 9 for Detailed Instructions on How to Saddle Stitch & Backstitch.**

Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



MEASURING BRACELET

4. Hold swivel snap end of the bracelet onto the top of your wrist.
5. Wrap the Bracelet (A) around your wrist two or three times, whatever feels comfortable and not too tight. (Figure 5)
6. Mark where the swivel snap end meets the soon to be eyelet end. (Figure 6)

Figure 5



Figure 6



SETTING EYELET

7. Trim the end of the Bracelet (A) $\frac{1}{4}$ " past the marked hole.
8. Use a $\frac{3}{16}$ " Round Drive Punch or Rotary Punch to punch hole. (Figures 7-8)
9. Insert Eyelet post (B) and stud into grain side of Bracelet (A). Use Mallet and Eyelet Setter to set. (Figure 9)

Figure 7



Figure 8

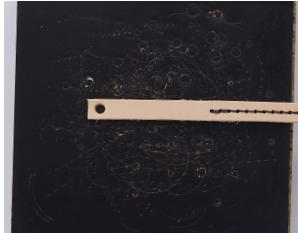


Figure 9



Figure 10



SNAP CUFF

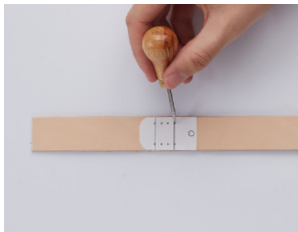
CONSTRUCTING BRACELET

1. Wrap Cuff (D) around your wrist with the pre-punched end on top of the other end. Mark where button stud will sit. (Figure 1)
2. Cut out Cuff Template (G).
3. Align the large punch hole from Template (G) to the marked hole on Wrap Cuff (D). Mark remaining stitch holes and trim. (Figure 2)

Figure 1



Figure 2



4. Punch/ press holes according to the template using an awl for stitching holes and a 3/32" for the larger Button Stud hole. (Figure 3)

5. Place the flesh side of Keeper (E) onto the grain side of Cuff (D). Saddle stitch together. Create an edgeloop stitch over each edge of Keeper (E). (Figures 4-6) **See Level Up Your Skills starting on page 9 for Detailed Instructions on How to Edge Lock Stitch.**

6. Secure Button Stud (F). (Figures 7-8)

Figure 3



Figure 4

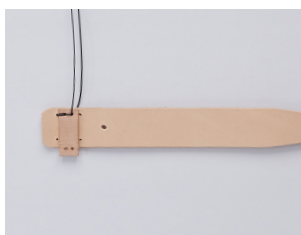


Figure 5



Figure 6



Figure 7



Figure 8



BUCKLE BRACELET

CONSTRUCTING BRACELET

NOTE: The pre-punched holes are the buckle end.

1. Slide Buckle (J) into place. (Figures 1-2)

Figure 1



Figure 2



2. Cut thread 5 times the length of stitch line, and thread both ends with harness needles.
3. Start and end with an edge lock stitch, and saddle stitch across with flesh sides together. (Figure 3)
4. Wrap Bracelet (H) around your wrist. Mark placement of closure holes and end. (Figure 4)
5. Punch hole at marked location with a 3/32" round drive punch. Punch two more holes. Punch two more holes about a 1/2" on either side of original hole. Trim end in desired shape. (Figures 5-6)
6. Slide Plate (I) onto Bracelet (H). (Figure 7)

Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6



Figure 7



Figure 8



**CONGRATULATIONS, YOU'VE
MADE A BRACELET SET!**



* 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 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

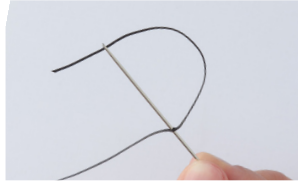


Figure 3

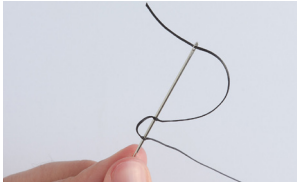


Figure 4

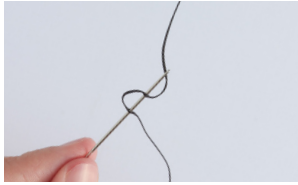


Figure 5

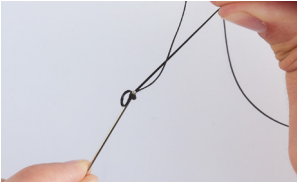


Figure 6



BURNISHING 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 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



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

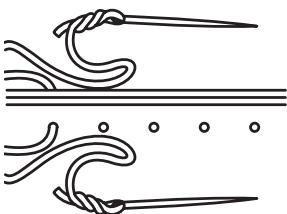
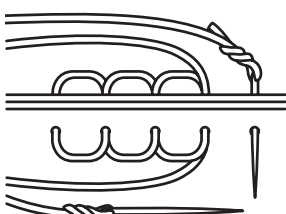


Figure 2



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LEATHER

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