

Make Along with Popov Leather:

DIY Card Holder Kit



Thank you for purchasing this DIY leathercrafting kit! This card holder design is the very first Popov Leather wallet ever made. It's been our top-selling wallet for the past 7 years and now you can make it at home. We've included (almost) everything you need to construct and finish your own, just follow the instructions below.



Watch our video instructions here: <https://bit.ly/3dS9Uic>

We ***strongly recommend*** watching this video, these written instructions are much easier to follow when you can see the motion of our work and hear us explain the process. Please like and subscribe to our YouTube channel to get future videos and updates on all our DIY kits.



Buy your DIY kits here: <https://www.popovleather.com>

Your choice of thread and leather options. Great for learning how to craft leather goods in the comfort of your home.

What's in your Kit



Included:

- 2 Lengths of Tiger Thread
- 2 Harness Needles for Sewing
- 1 Tin of Leather Balm
- 1 Burnishing Square
- 1 Piece of Sandpaper
- 2 Pieces of Cut Leather

Not Included:

- Scissors
- Crafting Glue
- Lighter

Instructions

Step 1: Roughing



Rough the outside of the large cardholder piece with sandpaper so that glue can weld. This is important, if glue doesn't weld, the leather pieces will not attach properly.



Tip: Use the front pocket piece as a guide where you should sand. You only want to sand where glue is being applied.

Step 2: Gluing



Our kit does not include glue, you will have to supply your own. In our example we use Elmer's Craft glue. Any white crafting glue should do the trick.

Apply glue to outside piece



Apply glue to inside piece



Smear glue with finger, careful not to get any in holes



Combine leather pieces as shown, careful to make sure corners are perfectly matched up.



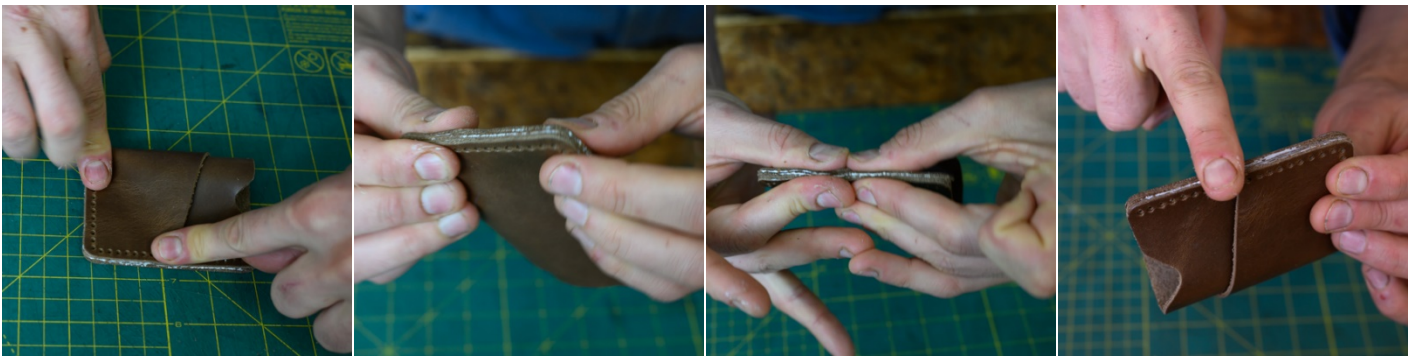
Once piece is dry and glue welded (30min-1hr), glue inside as shown



Smear glue with finger, careful again not to get any in holes



Combine sides as shown to get cardholder shape, wipe away any glue that forms on edges as you press together.

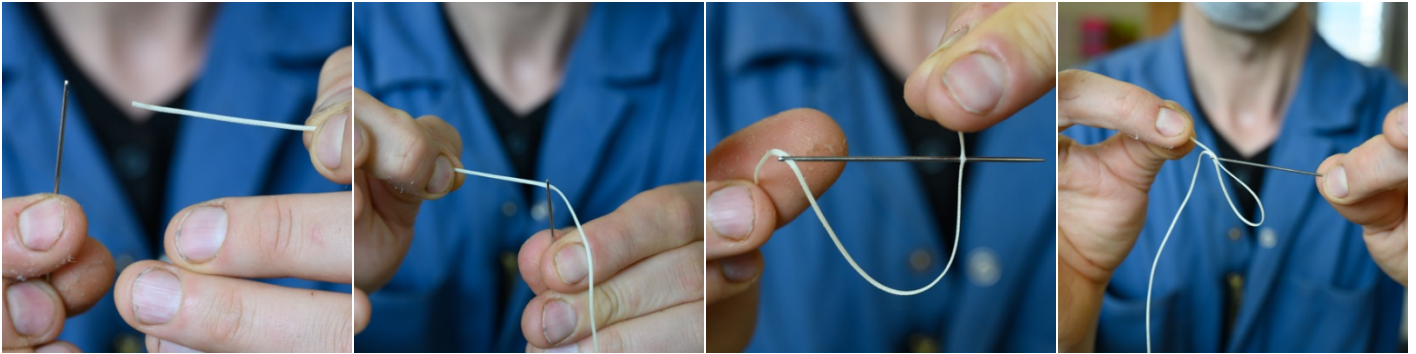


Allow piece to dry and allow glue to weld (30min-1hr)

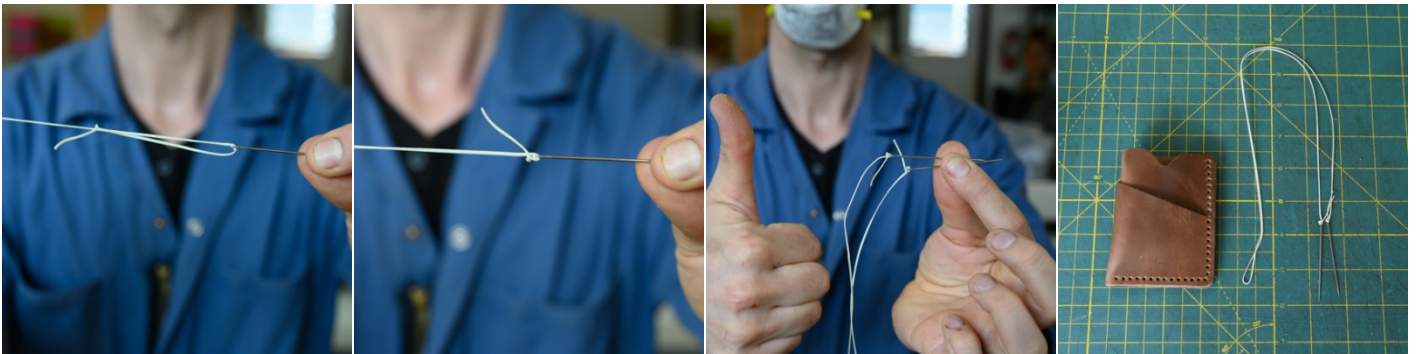


Step 3: Sewing Preparation

Prepare your thread for sewing. Attach one needle to both ends of a single piece of thread. You have 2 lengths of thread included in your kit; one is a spare.



Put thread through the needle eye, then pull the thread through about 5 cm. Take that same needle and pierce the length of thread you pulled through the needle eye. Then pull the thread to complete a knot.



Repeat step C on the other end of the thread. You should have one length of thread with 1 needle knotted on both ends.

Step 4: Hand-Sewing (Saddle Stitch Method)

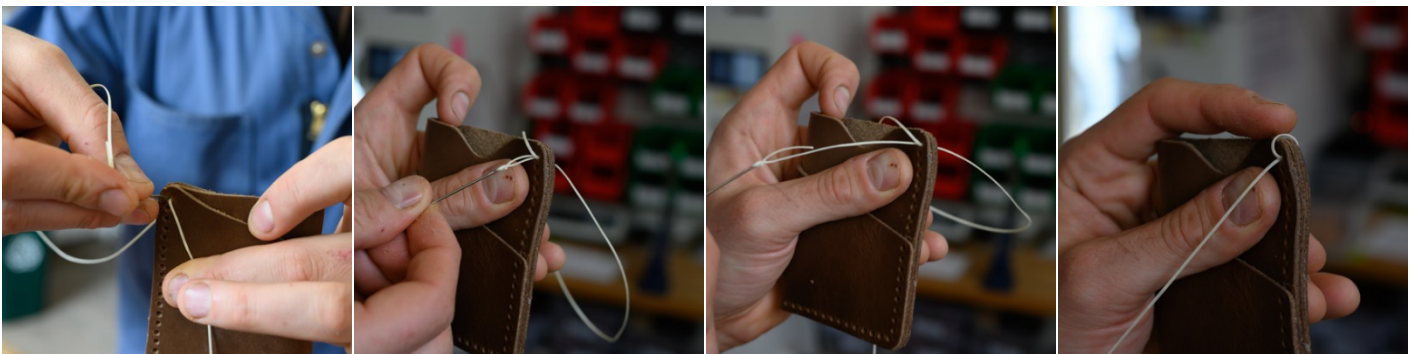


In the workshop, we normally use a stitching pony (or clamp) that holds our wallet together while sewing. The methods below show you how you can sew without a pony at home.

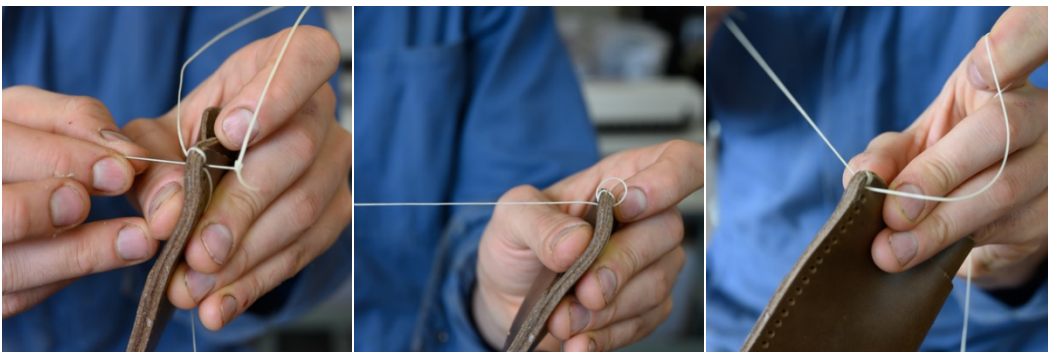
Pull needle through the top hole of the card holder until halfway through the thread. Both needles should be equal distance, you should have the same length of thread on either side of the card holder.



Take one needle and pull it through the first hole creating a loop as shown



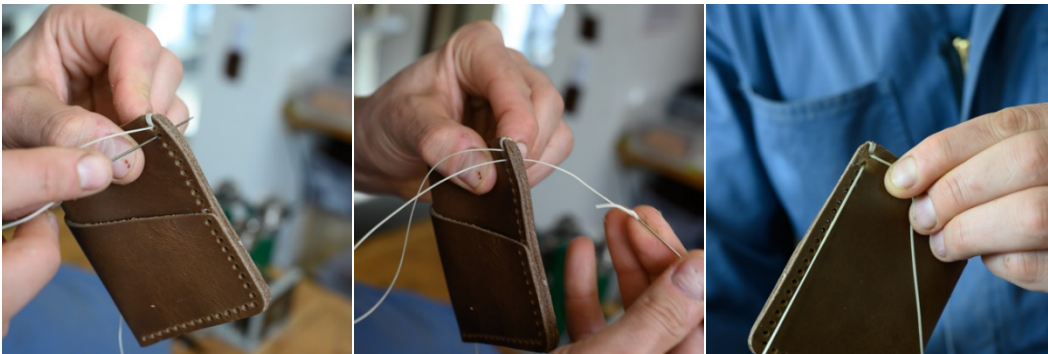
Repeat step b with the other needle. You should have two loops on top of the cardholder.



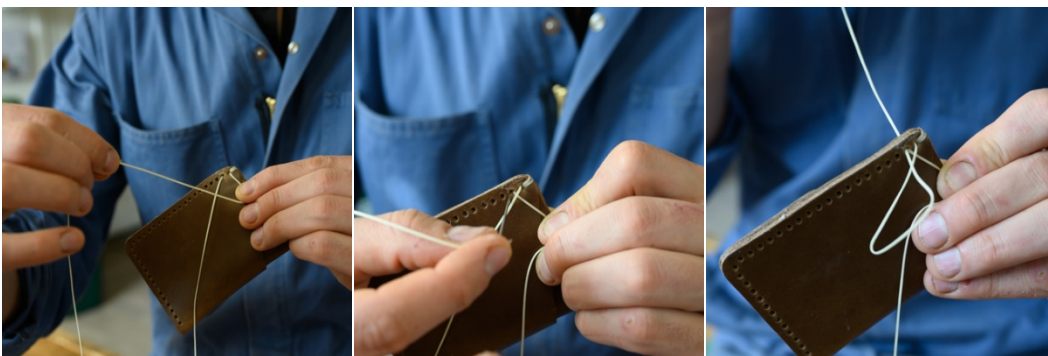
Take one needle and pull through the second hole, allow it to drop, hold that length of thread with your finger and pull to the side.



Take care not to pierce the thread with a needle while stitching, it can be very difficult to fix this mistake.



Take the other needle and pull it through the same hole in the opposite direction.

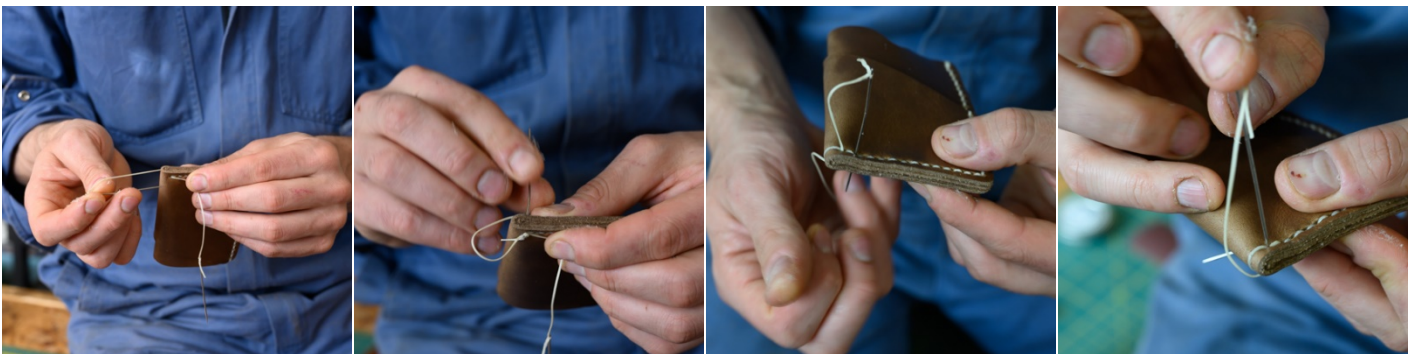


Every hole should have both needles passing through it, as you work your way down the length of the card holder.

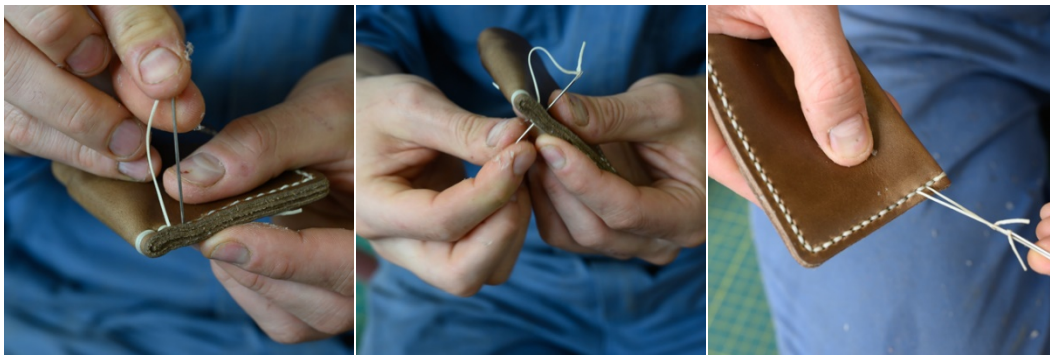
Always work from the same side, if you pull your needle through the left side of the wallet when you start a new hole, always start on the left side. This keeps the stitching straight and consistent.

Work your way all the way to the end of the wallet.

Loop around the side of the wallet as shown, like how we started at the top. Two loops of thread.



Work back wards twice, so that both threads end up hanging from the “back” of the card holder. This is called a backstitch.



Carefully cut the thread with your scissors but leave about 0.5 cm length of thread.



Carefully use your lighter to melt the 0.5cm length of thread, do not let the flame linger too closely to the leather or you risk burning the leather. Let the flame dance near the thread.



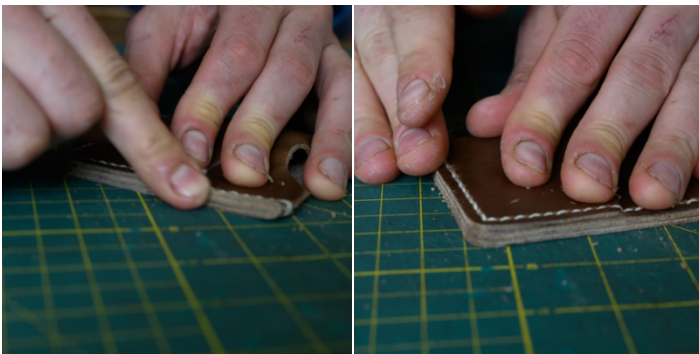
Use the side of the lighter or your finger to flatten the melted bits of thread.

Step 5: Sanding

Take your sandpaper and carefully sand the edges of the cardholder to get a nice flat finish. Take care not to sand the side or top of the wallet where the thread loops around.



Sand until you're happy with the smoothness, run your fingers on the corners of the edges to flatten them.



Step 6: Burnishing edges



We normally use a cocktail of gum trag, beeswax and a burnishing wheel to get our shiny edges, but Leather Balm and a patch of leather works in a pinch as well!

Take a liberal amount of Leather Balm and apply it to the sanded edges until they are moist.



Use the smooth, shiny side of the burnishing leather square to burnish the edges. Rub the edges and use a small amount of friction to get a nice shine.

Be careful, too much friction can burn the edges and leave dark marks.



Leather balm can also be used on all your other leather goods! Great for restoring, conditioning, and waterproofing



All done! Enjoy your card holder wallet!



Feedback? Questions?

This is the first in a series of DIY kits we hope to release. **Nothing is ever perfect, so if you have any difficulty with your kit, please reach out: hello@popovleather.com** We can help and we will use your feedback to make our instructions and kit even better.

Would you like to make other things? Tell us!

Show us your finished wallet

Tag us on Instagram with the hashtag **#makewithpopov** and show us what your wallet looks like!

Want to Learn More?

Popov Leather YouTube Channel: <https://bit.ly/3aE7OAJ>

The Ultimate Video on Saddle Stitching: <https://bit.ly/2wXbX43>

Ian Atkinson: <https://bit.ly/2UFwfZ4>

Corter Leather: <https://bit.ly/2X3orBO>

Stock & Barrel: <https://bit.ly/3dM7x0F>

Little King Goods: <https://bit.ly/2wQ1mYQ>

Have any makers we should add to this list? Let us know!