

Make Along with Popov Leather:

DIY Luggage Tag Kit



Thank you for purchasing this DIY leathercrafting kit!

We've included (almost) everything you need to construct and finish your own, just follow the instructions below.



Watch our video instructions here: <https://www.popovleather.com/YOUTUBE>

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/DIY>

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



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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
- 3 Pieces of Cut Leather
- 1 Address Card
- 1 Elastic Webbing

Not Included:

- Scissors
- Crafting Glue
- Lighter
- Ruler

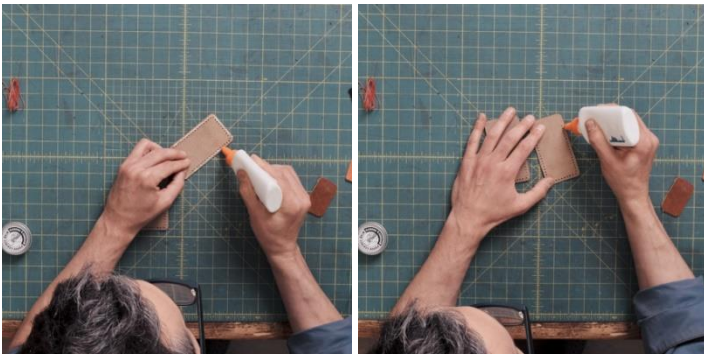
Instructions

Step 1: 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 the inside of each leather piece (rough side). Glue goes all along the perimeter except for the top as shown.



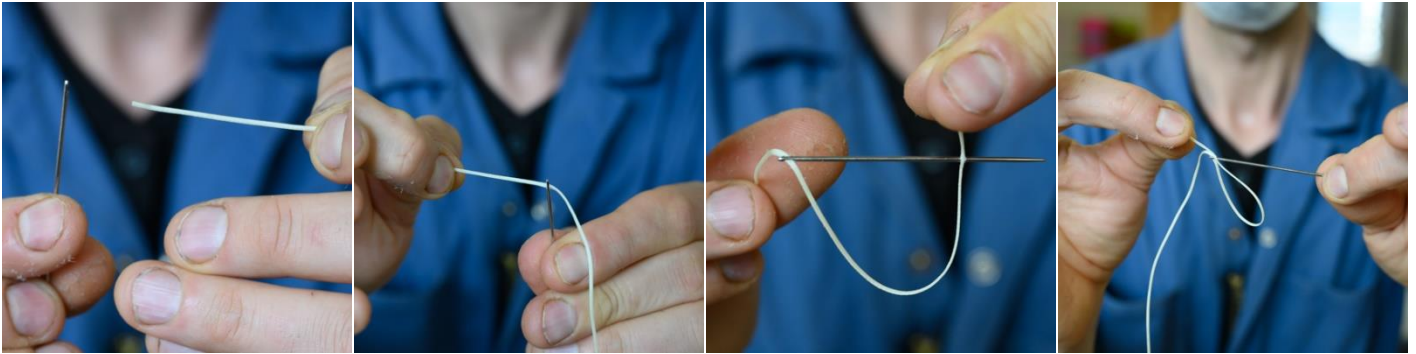
Smear glue with finger, careful not to get any in holes

Combine both pieces of leather, careful to make sure corners are perfectly matched up.

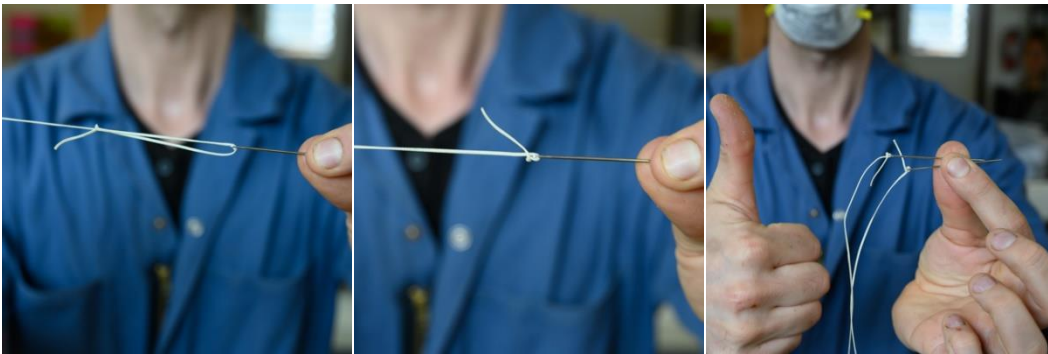


Step 2: Sewing Preparation

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.

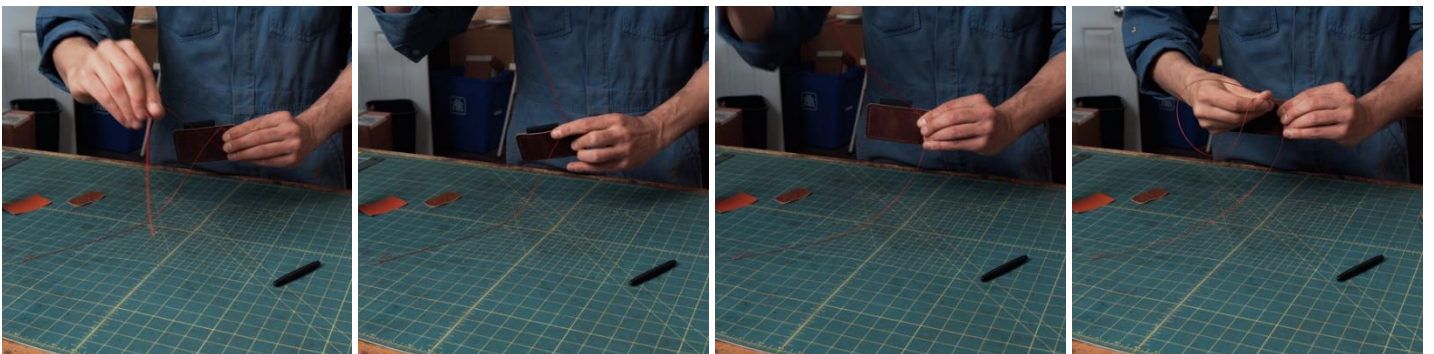
Step 3: Hand-Sewing (Saddle Stitch Method)



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



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



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 Luggage Tag. 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 Luggage Tag.

Work back wards twice, so that both threads end up hanging from the “back” of the Luggage Tag. 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 4: Sanding



Take your sandpaper and carefully sand the edges of the Luggage Tag to get a nice flat finish. Sand until you're happy with the smoothness, run your fingers on the corners of the edges to flatten them.

Step 5: 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



Pull the long strip through the tag hole. All done! Enjoy your Luggage Tag!



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!