



Pickle Tan A-21 - Taxidermy

Pickle Tan A-21 is an aluminum-based powder tan blend with excellent pickling ability. Developed specifically to prevent acid rot. Hides and skins will easily rehydrate for a wet tan.

It will speed the tanning process by *combining* the pickle and tanning baths to save time and money. Will make shaving smoother and easier compared to acid pickles.

- Provides excellent stretch and softness
- Great hair setting and stitch holding ability
- Eliminates hair curling that can happen with strong pickling acids
- Fast penetration
- Can be used on small game skins to larger, thicker hides such as moose and bison
- **Pickle-Tan A-21** will not cake or harden and dissolves easily with hot water

Directions and Recommended use:

Wear mask, goggles and rubber gloves to prevent inhalation of chemical dust, and any eye or skin irritation.

Care of Raw Hides and Fur Skins

Take care of the hide as soon as possible after it has been removed from the animal. Flesh and salt or freeze to prevent bacteria growth.

Salting: After the hide is fleshed, lay it flesh side up in a cool, dry area, then work a heavy layer of fine granulated salt such as table or canning salt into the hide. Do NOT use rock salt, these crystals are too large to break down.

Allow the hide to lay flesh side up overnight. The next day, if the salt is moist, shake it off and discard. Then reapply a fresh layer of salt and let this sit for 24 hours. Shake off excess salt again. The hide is now ready for the pickle/tan processes or if the hide is not going to be used right away, it can be stored in a cool dry area until ready to be pickled and tanned.

Freezing: If not salting right away, fold the hide or skin flesh to flesh, roll up, place in an airtight plastic bag and freeze.

Rehydrating

If the hide is in a dried salted state, it needs to be rehydrated first. This will allow the fiber structure of the hide to open up enabling the penetration of the **Pickle-Tan A-21**. If the hide is still in the wet salted state, it should still be rehydrated to remove dirt and excess salt.

To help relax stiff hides see **Hide Relaxer XL7**. If the hide/skin is greasy, it is recommended to use the **D-Solv 60 Degreaser**. See separate directions for these products.

Step 1: In a plastic or fiberglass container (do not use metal) large enough to completely submerge the hide and allow it to move freely, mix 4 ounces of **Pickle-Tan A-21** and ½ pound (8 ounces) of salt per gallon of hot water. Stir to dissolve and cool. Using a pH meter or pH paper, test the solution and adjust to a pH of 3.4 to 3.6. Use sodium bicarbonate (baking soda) to raise the pH or a mild acid such as citric acid to lower it.

Step 2: Soak the hide in the prepared solution for 24 hours being sure to check and maintain the pH at 3.4-3.6 while it is soaking. Remove and drain until damp. Do not discard the solution as it will be re-used. Next, shave the hide. **This is an important step** as proper shaving gives the hide maximum stretch and reduces shrinkage. If the hide has a bluish color, it may not be thoroughly pickled, it can be placed back into the solution until it looks white all the way through.

Step 3: Once the hide is shaved, place it back into the solution for an additional 24 hours, again, maintaining the pH at 3.4-3.6. Next, using sodium bicarbonate (baking soda), gradually raise the pH to 4.3-4.5. This should be done in 2-3 feeds over a 3 hour period. Once the pH has leveled out at 4.3-4.5, allow the hide to soak for an additional 6-12 hours. Remove from the soak and drain.

Step 4: Once the hide is drained and just damp, apply a swab oil and allow to soak in, then fold flesh side to flesh side for 24 hours. See the **Swab Oil** product sheets to determine which one is best for the hide or skin you are treating. Follow the directions for applying the oil and drying the hide.

If the hide is going to be used as a wet tan, it can be rehydrated (after it has been folded for 24 hours than dried for another 24 hours) and mounted or it can be rolled up, placed in a plastic bag and frozen to be mounted later.

For flat skin tanning, dry the hide half way, then hand break or drum in sawdust to keep it soft and pliable.

NOTE: Do not place a hide in hot water, as this can cause bacteria growth and loosen the hair/fur.

First Aid: Do not get in eyes, on skin or on clothing. Wear mask to avoid breathing dust in. Causes eye irritation and may irritate skin causing dryness. *If in Eyes:* Rinse with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses if present and easy to do. *If on Skin and Clothing:* Wash skin with soap and water. Remove and wash contaminated clothing. If skin or eye irritation persists, get medical attention. Store product closed in original container in a cool, dry area. Keep out of the reach of children

Disclaimer: Being that hides and skins are natural materials, susceptible to varying degrees of putrefaction, natural defects, diseases, mishandling, experience of the user, and used under conditions beyond our control, as seller, we make no guarantee or warranty expressed or implied as to the use of this product. All information contained here is accurate to the best of our knowledge and good faith and is based upon thorough testing.

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