

# Leatherwork



## PURPOSE

This council badge highlights different types of leathers, the tools used and the various finishing techniques. Girls learn the history of leather, products currently manufactured and the environmental impacts.

## GIRL SCOUT LEVELS / REQUIREMENTS

Girls need to complete a Take Action Project along with the following requirements:

- Junior Girl Scouts: Choose 2 activities from Discover, 2 from Connect and 1 from Take Action
- Cadette Girl Scouts: Choose 3 activities from Discover, 3 from Connect and 1 from Take Action
- Senior and Ambassador Girl Scouts: Choose 4 activities from Discover, 4 from Connect, and 1 from Take Action.

## LEADER'S TOOL KIT

- Use the internet, libraries, and museums -- just to name a few, as resources.
- Check out Tandy Leather, 900 S Military Trail, West Palm Beach, FL 33415FL for a listing of classes and supplies.
- For more information about leather works, visit <https://www.instructables.com/id/Introduction-to-Leatherworking/> "Introduction to Leatherworking" or [www.leatherworker.net](http://www.leatherworker.net).
- For girls, consider review of the [Girl Scout Internet Safety Pledge for All Girl Scouts](http://www.girlscouts.org/en/help/help/internet-safety-pledge.html) at <http://www.girlscouts.org/en/help/help/internet-safety-pledge.html>

## ACTIVITIES

### *Discover*

- ACTIVITY #1: HISTORY OF LEATHER
  - Learn about the history of leather.
  - Name at least 3 ways leather was used in the past.
  - Name at least 4 ways leather is used in the present.

## ACTIVITIES {continued}

- ACTIVITY #2: TOOLS
  - Learn about leather tools and how to take care of them.
- ACTIVITY #3: WHAT IS A SWIVEL KNIFE?
  - ✓ Safety First! Watch a video to learn about the swivel knife OR ask an adult to perform a demonstration. This activity does not require hands-on participation from the girls.
  - Learn the purpose of a swivel knife.
  - How do you sharpen a swivel knife?
  - How do you care for a swivel knife?
- ACTIVITY #4: TANNING THE HIDE
  - Learn the different processes currently in use to tan the animal hide and skins converting to leather.
- ACTIVITY #5: CARE FOR LEATHER PROJECTS
  - Learn about the process of dyeing and finishing leather projects.
  - What are some examples of how to use leather once finished in this manner?
  - Know how to care and maintain leather projects after they have been completed.

## Connect

- ACTIVITY #6: LEARN FROM AN EXPERT
  - Take a class or invite someone who knows about leather work to your meeting.
- ACTIVITY #7: STAMPING LEATHER
  - ✓ If you take a class, this requirement can be met if you do a stamping project.
  - Use stamping tools to create a work of your own choice or as a troop.
- ACTIVITY #8: CARVING LEATHER
  - ✓ If you take a class, this requirement can be met if you do a carving project.
  - Learn how to carve leather.
  - Create a leather work using carving and stamping techniques.
- ACTIVITY #9: DYEING LEATHER
  - ✓ If you take a class, this requirement can be met if you do a dyeing project.
  - Create a project using multiple dyes.

## ACTIVITIES {continued}

### Take Action

Share what you've discovered while doing this program badge by completing a Take Action project. Some suggestions are listed below:

- CAREERS IN THE LEATHER INDUSTRY.
  - Learn about the types of jobs in the leather industry, education required and potential income. Identify businesses in your area that provide the jobs. Invite a professional to speak at your local career day.
- BE A VOLUNTEER IN YOUR COMMUNITY.
  - Volunteer to teach leather works to younger girls in a troop and/or camp setting.
- BECOME AN ENVIRONMENTALIST.
  - Learn about the environmental impacts of leather manufacturing. Discuss what state and/or federal regulations are in place to minimize pollution. Discover if any leather manufactures' are located in your area and observe if the surrounding areas are affected in any manner.
- SHARE IN YOUR COMMUNITY.
  - Complete a leather project and donate the item to someone else such as a community center, day care, animal shelter, Meals on Wheels tray favor, etc.
- YOUR CHOICE.
  - Any other activity that you can construct that would teach others about leather works and associated safe practices in your community.