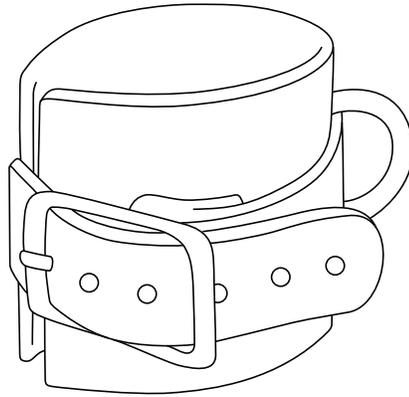


# PADDED CUFFS



These classic leather cuffs are an essential: durable, attractive, and quite comfortable. They consist of an outer layer of chap, vegetable-tanned leather or latigo, with padding made of quilted cotton (or a 15mm ( $\frac{5}{8}$ " ) slab of polyurethane foam, see page 12), covered by an inner layer of garment leather.

The padding and inner layer of garment leather can be replaced with real or artificial sheepskin if desired. The outer perimeter of the cuffs can be stitched with a machine if the leather is thin enough, and can be hand-stitched otherwise, although hand-stitching through fleece can be difficult. Sheepskin will actually adhere quite well to the outer layer with glue alone, though with vegetable-tanned and latigo skins, the flesh side should first be ruffled up with a rasp. The length of the pile on most sheepskins may be longer than ideal for this project – see page 52 for trimming instructions.

## Tools

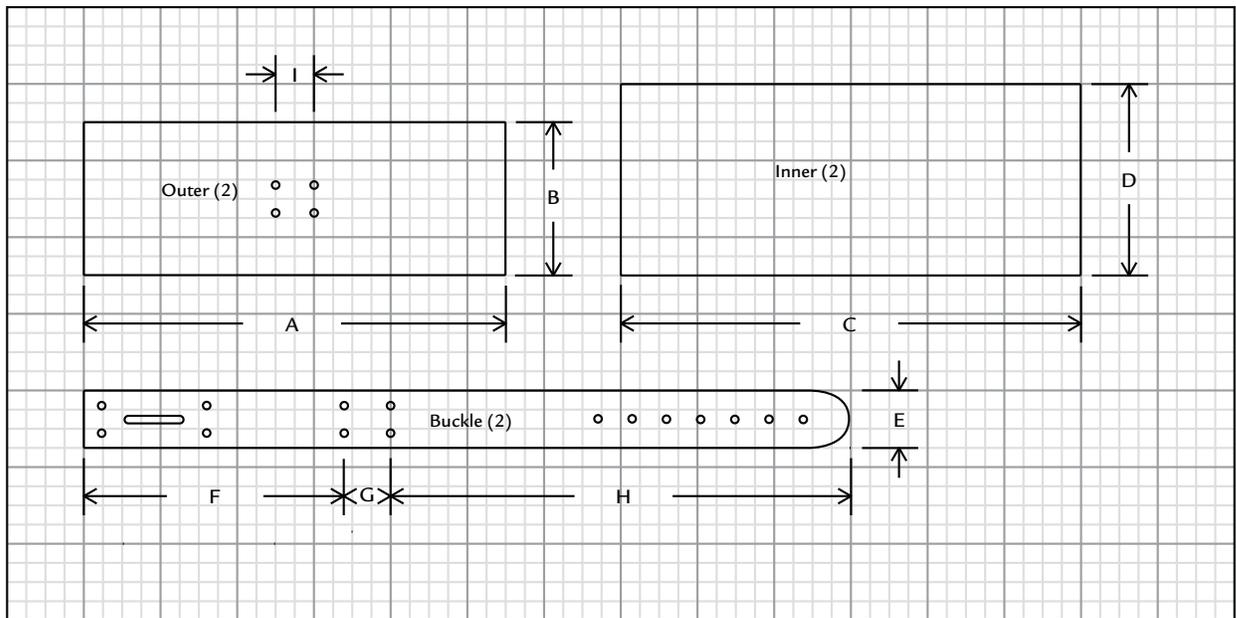
- Sewing machine (leather needle/universal needle)
- Shears
- Hobby knife
- Rotary cutter and ruler
- Drive punch
- Rivet setter and anvil
- Cutting board
- Hammer
- Measuring tape
- Water pencil

If the buckle strap is cut from leather thick enough that the strap will not twist laterally, the four rivets around the D-ring will be sufficient to fix it to the outer panel. With lighter or softer leather, though, you'll need to sew the buckle strap to the outer panel on both sides of the D-ring before mounting the padding (fig 4.5, page 130). Using a heavier leather for the buckle strap and a lighter one for the outer panel can be a good idea, as it makes for a sturdy restraint and allows the perimeter seams to be sewn on a machine.

The same pattern is used for both wrist and ankle cuffs, using the appropriate set of measurements. Human wrists and ankles are not cylindrical, though, so the stiffer the leather is, the longer the cuffs will need to be in order to fit properly. The same goes for piling and padding: the thicker it is, the longer the cuffs will need to be.

## Materials

- Chap, vegetable-tanned leather or latigo
- Matching garment leather
- Matching thread
- 4 x 250mm (10") scrap cotton cloth for padding
- 12 x medium rivets
- 12 x small rivets
- 2 x 25mm (1") D-rings
- 2 x 19mm ( $\frac{3}{4}$ " ) D-rings
- 2 x 25mm (1") center-bar or locking buckles
- 2 x 19mm ( $\frac{3}{4}$ " ) center-bar or locking buckles
- Contact cement



#### Wrist cuffs

- A =  $\xi + 30\text{mm}$  (1 ¼ ")
- B = 50mm (2")
- C =  $\xi + 50\text{mm}$  (2")
- D = 70mm (2¾ ")
- E = 20mm (¾ ")
- F =  $0.50\xi + 30\text{mm}$  (1 ¼ ")
- G = 25mm (1")
- H =  $0.50\xi + 110\text{mm}$  (4½ ")
- I = 20mm (¾ ")

#### Ankle cuffs

- A =  $\chi + 20\text{mm}$  (¾ ")
- B = 70mm (2¾ ")
- C =  $\chi + 40\text{mm}$  (1½ ")
- D = 90mm (3½ ")
- E = 26mm (1")
- F =  $0.50\chi + 25\text{mm}$  (1")
- G = 25mm (1")
- H =  $0.50\chi + 110\text{mm}$  (4½ ")
- I = 20mm (¾ ")

### Instructions

- Mark and cut all pieces as shown. Cut the outer panels and buckle straps from the chap, vegetable-tanned leather or latigo, and the inner panels from garment leather.
- Punch all holes where marked, and cut the slots.
- Bevel the grain side of all edges if using vegetable-tanned leather or latigo. Dye and condition if using vegetable-tanned leather, dye the edges if using latigo.
- Fold each piece of scrap cloth in half widthwise, lengthwise, then widthwise to make eight layers. Press.

- Trim each piece of padding so that it is 20mm (¾ ") less the length and width of the outer panels.
- Make quarter, half and three-quarter marks on the long sides and halfway marks on the short sides of each piece of padding. Sew each piece together as shown in fig 4.4, using a universal machine needle.
- Clip off 20mm (¾ ") isosceles triangles from the corners of each inner panel (see page 60).

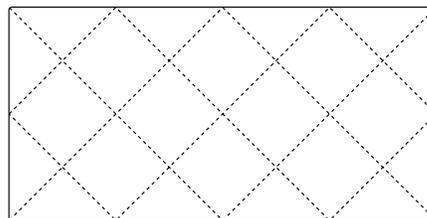


fig 4.4

- Apply contact cement to the outer 20mm ( $\frac{3}{4}$ " ) of the flesh sides of each inner panel. Make 10mm ( $\frac{3}{8}$ " ) folds and press firmly.

- Fix each buckle strap to an outer panel with medium rivets around a D-ring.

- If using lighter leather for the buckle straps, sew each buckle strap to the outer panel from the grain side as shown in fig 4.5, using a leather machine needle.

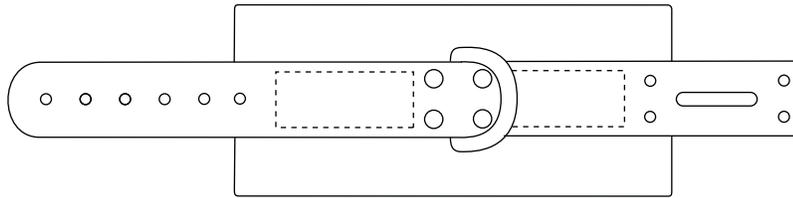
- Apply contact cement to the fold allowances on each inner panel.

- Place a piece of padding in the center of each inner panel.

- Place each outer panel over an inner panel with the padding in between, taking care to align all of the edges. Press firmly and let dry overnight.

- Sew the perimeter of each cuff from the outer panel, 4mm ( $\frac{3}{16}$ " ) from the edge, using a leather machine needle or hand-sewing, taking care not to sew through the buckle straps.

- Fix the buckles in place with medium rivets.



*fig 4.5*

