

# SADDLE STITCHING

## RECOMMENDED USAGE:

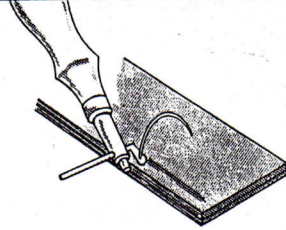
Saddle stitching is the best method for sewing two or more pieces of leather together.

Use a Stitching awl to punch holes. You will also need two harness needles, stitching groover, over-stitch tool, unwaxed linen thread and beeswax or prewaxed thread.

## THREADING THE NEEDLE

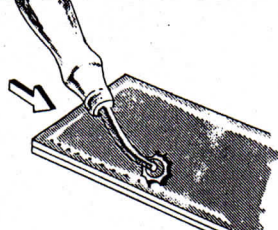


1



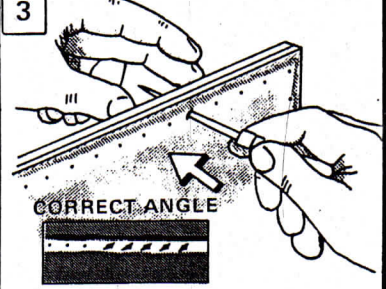
Use the stitching groover and gouge a channel around the edges of the leather. Gouge the leather on both sides. Keep tool tight against leather edges to insure a uniform gouge along the edge.

2



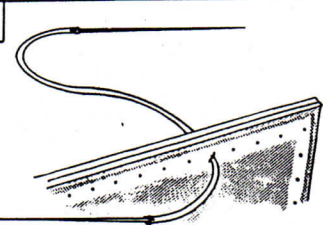
Moisten the gouged channels lightly with a damp sponge, and run the over-stitch tool all around the channel on the front side only. This marks position of awl holes to insure even stitches.

3



Stab first hole with awl as shown above. Be sure to stab proper angle with the awl blade.

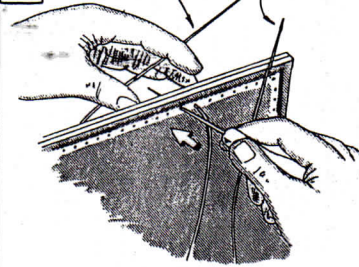
4



Push one needle through hole and pull until equal amount of thread is on each side of leather.

5

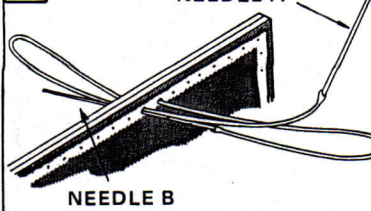
NEEDLE A NEEDLE B



Punch second hole with awl. Hold needles as shown above.

6

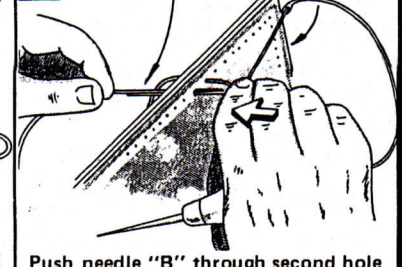
NEEDLE A



Push needle "A" through second hole from back side as shown. Always push back side needle through hole first.

7

NEEDLE B NEEDLE A

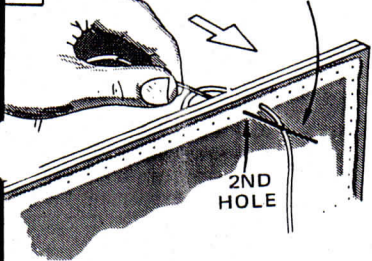


Push needle "B" through second hole from front of leather. Be careful not to pierce "A" with needle "B".

15

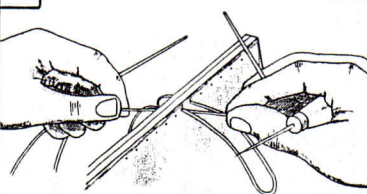
8

NEEDLE B



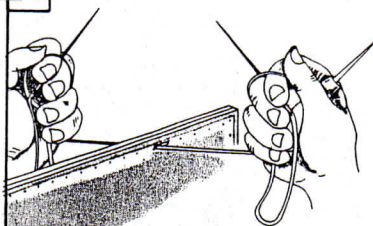
When putting needle "B" through always put it on the same side of thread "A". This will insure uniform appearing stitches.

9



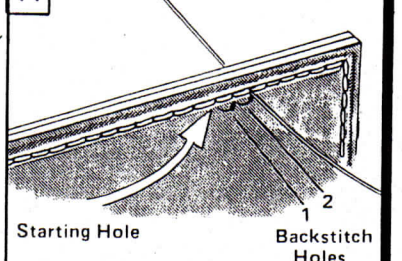
Pull both threads until all slack is taken up.

10



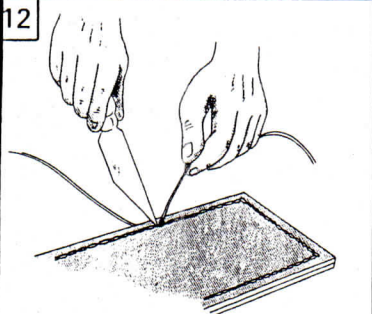
To tighten the stitch grip threads as shown and pull into gouged channel. Use equal tension with both hands. Continue stitching around project to starting hole.

11



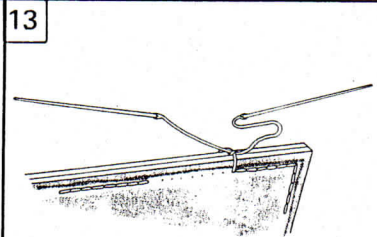
To complete stitching backstitch two holes from starting hole. Pull threads tight with each stitch.

12



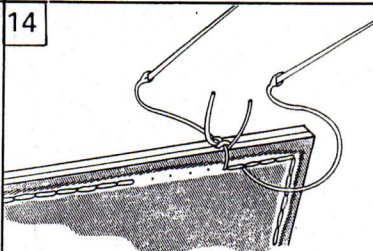
Cut threads off in stitching channel on both sides with a sharp knife.

13



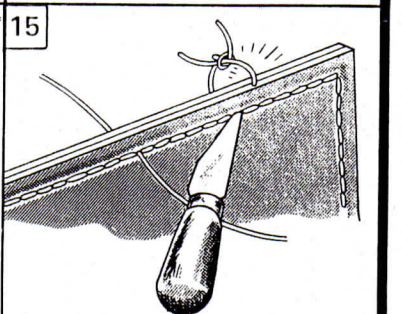
If you are sewing and use up a full length of thread and have not reached the starting hole, pull last stitch tight and tie threads together on top edge of leather as shown.

14



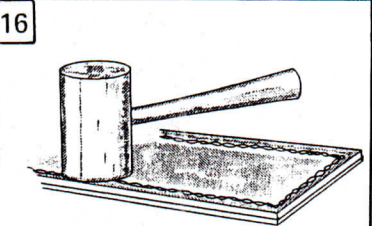
Cut needles off threads. Put needles on a new length of thread. Insert awl one hole back from last stitch and start new thread in this hole as explained in step 4. Continue stitching around project to starting hole.

15



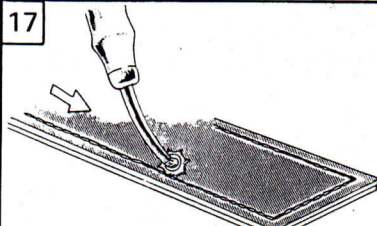
Complete stitching as explained in step 11, then cut off both sets of threads as explained in step 12.

16



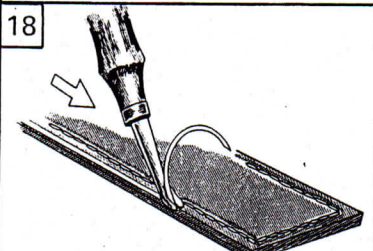
Lay project on work surface and tap over all stitching with a mallet. Be careful not to mar leather.

17



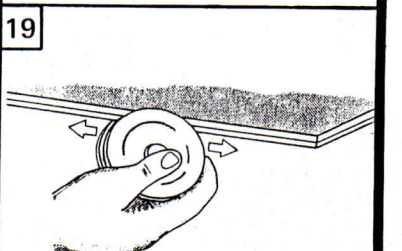
Run over-stitch wheel over all of the stitches this actually helps the appearance of any slightly irregular stitches.

18



Round the edges of the leather on both sides with a bevel-edge beveler.

19



Moisten the edges of the leather and burnish with a circle edge slicker.