

guide to

MACHINE SEWING LEATHER

soft leathers

Soft leathers such as lambskin, soft suede, gloving skins and metallics can be sewn on a regular domestic sewing machine, with a leather needle.

It is an advantage to have a walking foot but can be possible without.

preparing

Cut with a rotary cutter or sharp precision craft knife, holding the leather in place with weights and a ruler to avoid stretch.

Use double sided tape to hold seams together. Quilters clips can also be useful (do not use pins).

testing

Set up the sewing machine as usual with the leather needle inserted.

Adjust the stitch length to give a longer stitch length - around 3mm.

Adjust the feed dog as per the instructions for your machine.

Test stitch taking it slowly and pulling through with a hand to the back and a moderate tension. If necessary adjust the tensions.

tips

- For thicker areas turn the sewing arm by hand and work slowly.
- Sew by hand using a 'glovers' needle (sharp diamond tip).
- Use a bone folder or roller to press open the seams.
- For firmer leathers remove the thread and stitch empty to make holes then hand stitch together.

For more tips and information on machine sewing leather take a look at Angela Holland's sewing blog:

www.looks-like-i-made-it.blogspot.com

For information on semi-industrial and industrial sewing machines :

Hartley's of Walsall
www.hartleysewing.com

Universal machine needles, hand sewing needles, narrow leather tape, rollers and bone folders, can all be found to purchase on our website.

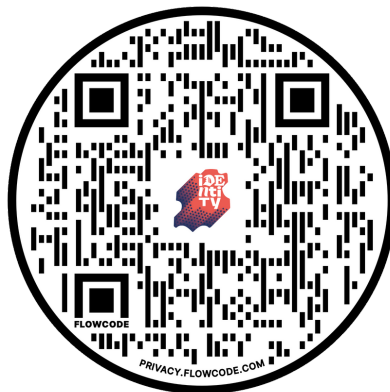
Details of events, workshops, leather sales and open days can be found on the News page of our website, and on our social media. To keep in touch with shows and events you can also subscribe to our newsletter.

How to Order

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