



*for people that make, mend or adapt things out of leather!*

## **GUIDE TO IDENTITY LEADING EDGE LEATHER FINISHES**



*Photo and Edge work by Mark Cambridge,  
The Hairy Leathercrafter*

# Edge Finishing The Identity Way

## EDGE FOUNDATION & LEADING EDGE



*better for the environment—better for you—better for your leather*

**Leading Edge** finishes have been specially formulated by The Identity Store to give a professional clean and smooth edge to both mineral and veg tanned leathers.

They have a unique consistency that makes them easy to apply for great results time after time.

They can be used on their own but for best results use The Identity Store **Edge Foundation** first as a base layer or primer. This smooths and binds edges fibres to allow for a smoother ,more even surface for the edge finish to adhere to.



### LEADING EDGE

Water based edge finish for veg tan and mineral tan leathers



For best results use with Identity Store Edge Foundation

Leading Edge coats are available in a wide selection of colours including a neutral or clear which can be used as an additional top-coat if desired.



*Working to protect our environment—using water based products are kinder to the environment, and to the health of the user. A product safety data sheet is available on request.*

## Directions for Use:

1. Shake the Edge Foundation bottle vigorously and leave to settle for a few minutes to allow any air bubbles to subside.
2. Tip a small amount into a small dish (an ice cube tray or tattoo ink pots work well).
3. There are several different types of applicators you can use—a small dauber, a paintbrush or the edge roller pen. The edge roller pen will give the best results and is easier to control for greater accuracy. Keep a cloth or wet wipe handy to clean the tip after use to prevent build up in the gills.



4. Start with the Edge Foundation and apply to a clean cut leather edge with an applicator. This will smooth down the leather as it is applied leaving a primed surface for the Leading Edge finish to adhere to. Work in one direction only until the surface feels smooth. Allow to dry.

***NOTE: for mineral/chrome tanned leathers no gum or slicking is required, in fact this is likely to act against the tannage and make the edge more fluffy.***



**Choosing your colour:** The edge colours are very opaque and therefore the brighter colours will remain bright when dry.

As the colours are water based they can easily be blended to create your own colours, or to get a close match for a repair. We would always suggest that you experiment first on a scrap piece of your leather or on an area that will not show.

## Leading Edge Coat



1. Shake the Leading Edge Coat bottle vigorously and leave to settle for a few minutes to allow any air bubbles to subside.
2. Again tip a small amount into a small dish.
3. Using the applicator carefully apply working in one direction, this first coat can be applied thinly.
4. Allow to dry, to speed up the process place in an oven at no more than 50 degrees for three minutes.
5. Taking a fine grit sandpaper or emery nail board lightly sand the edge to remove any imperfections. Brush away any dust with a finger.
6. Apply the second coat this time allowing the edge coat to sink in and lie evenly over the edge.
7. Leave to dry in an upright position to avoid the dye material moving.

For a matt look the Edge coat can be left as it is but for an extra finish to give a soft gloss use the Veg Protec conditioner and if necessary give a quick slick to buff up. For a high gloss use Feibing's Neutral Edge Kote.

The application of Veg Protec or the Feibing's Edge Kote Neutral makes the edge water resistant while also imparting a professional sheen finish.

This method can be used for both veg tan and mineral tanned leathers and for re-dressing and smartening up old and vintage leather items. For old leathers treat as usual for re-dyeing and use leather deglazer on the edges to remove old waxes and edge finishes.



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