

Get to know your

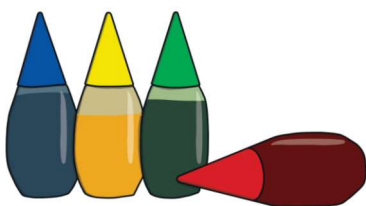


LEATHER



Tanning:

preserving and
preparing skins for
use as leather



Dyeing: The
process of adding
color to leather by
applying a dye to
its surface.



Hide: skin removed
from the animal



Stitching: joining
two pieces of
leather together
using a needle and
thread



Tooling: shaping
and decorating
leather to create
patterns and other
designs.





Leather workers in medieval times were known as tanners, and they created all kinds of leather goods, from saddles and bridles for horses, to boots, shoes, and belts for people.

Leather was also used to make pouches, wallets, and even book covers. In fact, many of the books from the Middle Ages were bound in leather to protect them from damage.

The process of making leather was time-consuming and required a great deal of skill. Tanners had to soak the rawhide in water to soften it, then scrap off any remaining flesh and fat. Next, they would soak the hide in a mixture of bark and water to help preserve it and give it its brown color.

After this, the hide was dried and stretched, then treated with oils and waxes to make it soft and pliable.

Leather work was an important trade in medieval times, and tanners were often members of a guild, or group of workers who shared knowledge and skills. These guilds helped to regulate the quality of leather goods and made sure that only skilled tanners could sell their wares.

Today, leather work is still an important craft, and many people enjoy making leather goods as a hobby.

Whether it's creating a new belt, wallet, or bag, leather work is a fun and challenging way to bring the skills of the medieval tanners to life. So if you're interested in history and working with your hands, why not try your hand at leather work? You never know what you might create!

1) What was the most common use of leather during medieval times?

- A. Book covers
- B. Saddles and bridles for horses
- C. Boots and shoes for people



2) What was the process of making leather called in medieval times?

- A. Stretching
- B. Tanning
- C. Soaking

3) How did tanners preserve leather during medieval times?

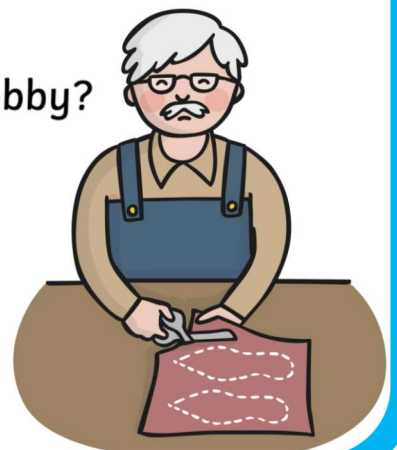
- A. By soaking it in water
- B. By treating it with oils and waxes
- C. By soaking it in a mixture of bark and water

4) What was the purpose of a guild in medieval times?

- A. To regulate the quality of leather goods
- B. To make sure only skilled tanners could sell their wares
- C. Both A and B

5) What can you make today with leather work as a hobby?

- A. Belts, wallets, and bags
- B. Book covers
- C. Both A and B





With Mattheo, you will

- Talk about where the leather come from?
- Study the steps of tanning leather and experiment it.
- Talk about what you can and cannot do with leather.
- Make your own little leather pouch.