



## ORDERING LEATHER

Happy things to know when you're wanting to order some leather and you find yourself in the position of being

- A: A computer geek.
- B: An accountant.
- C: A perfectionist that constantly irritates your spouse.
- D: A person admittedly ignorant concerning all things leather.

### Springfield leather to the rescue!!!!

First of all, leather comes from animal skins. (Duh!) But that means that you can't buy it by the yard, like you can fabric. Usually, the way leather is sold, is by the piece, by the skin, or by the square ft. The square foot thing is the most common. A square ft is a surface area that is 12 inches by 12 inches.... Simple! But since a skin is irregularly shaped, it can be difficult to tell how many square feet are in a hide or skin. Fortunately for us today, the wonder of computeling (new word) has arrived to save the day!!! Various computer applications can measure every single particle of leather comprising the surface area of a skin! Even if a skin has a hole, (or holes) in it, they are able to be accurately measured. The holes simply don't register with the counting mechanism, so you don't get charged for them. To give you a hazy example, a 55 sq ft upholstery hide will have about 2 to 2 ½ yds useable yards in it.

Next, it will be advantageous for you to either know the person that you're buying leather from, or call them and get acquainted. Now, if you are reasonably sure of what you want, and what you're trying to do, then you might not worry about that, but the advantage to calling and speaking with a relatively capable salesperson, (if one is available) is that they could quite possibly direct you to something that is less expensive, but just as good, or possibly to an in-store special, or a sale item, or a leather that is due to arrive in a day or so that would save you enough to buy a 2<sup>nd</sup> car...

For what it's worth, there are basically (very basically) 2 types of leather: Vegetable tanned, and Chrome tanned. The veg tanned leather is the stuff that a tooled wallet, or a man's belt, or a holster, or knife sheath would be made of. Usually it's a natural color, and can be dyed and molded.

Chrome tanned leather (generally) is the stuff that your couch has been upholstered with, or that your handbag (if you're a lady) is made of, or perhaps your jacket, or your motorcycle chaps. Chrome tanned leather is usually already dyed, and doesn't readily accept water. It's usually soft and pliable.

No matter what kind of leather that you're needing to buy, there's a good chance that you'll need to buy a little more than you're actually needing. (That's why calling is good, because we can help you to keep that to a minimum!)

Now those are very loose guidelines. If you need more help, you'll just have to call. ☺

Oh.....by the way.....I almost forgot.....

**SPRINGFIELD LEATHER IS JUST ABOUT THE ONLY PLACE ON THE PLANET THAT WILL CUT LEATHER FOR YOU!!!!!!**



## CONVERSION CHART FOR LEATHER THICKNESS

| Ounces | Millimeters | Fractional Inches |
|--------|-------------|-------------------|
| 1      | .40         | 1/64              |
| 2      | .8          | 1/32              |
| 3      | 1.2         | 1/16              |
| 4      | 1.6         | 1/16              |
| 5      | 2.          | 5/64              |
| 6      | 2.4         | 3/32              |
| 7      | 2.8         | 7/64              |
| 8      | 3.2         | 1/8               |
| 9      | 3.6         | 9/64              |
| 10     | 4.          | 5/32              |
| 11     | 4.40        | 11/64             |
| 12     | 4.8         | 3/16              |