

Chapter 1 : How to Tan a Hide

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Tanning Hides Ancient and Modern Methods of Tanning Hides Tanning hides is a process of making leather from the skins of animals that otherwise would tend to decompose. A raw hide ready for fleshing. Rawhide is made by scraping the skin thin, perhaps soaking it in lime, and then stretching it while it dries. Rawhide is not technically "leather", but is usually lumped in with the other forms. Vegetable tanning is a process of tanning hides that uses the tannins found in various types of vegetation and tree bark to produce a supple leather that can be hardened and used for carving or stamping. Vegetable tanned leather is not stable in water. After a soaking it can shrink drastically and begin to deteriorate. But it made a good shield and in the Middle Ages it was hardened and used for armor. Chrome tanning is a process of tanning hides that uses various chromium sulfates to produce leather that is more pliable and less affected by water than vegetable tanned hides. The process also allows for a wider range of colors because of the chemical content. Aldehyde tanning is a process of tanning hides that uses chemicals that are often associated nowadays with disinfecting medical or dental equipment. Formaldehyde was one preservative in this category. Brain tanning is an ecologically sound and sustainable form of aldehyde tanning used by ancient civilizations around the world, including First Nations people on this continent. Brain tanned leathers are made by a labor-intensive process which uses emulsified oils, often those of animal brains. Brain tanned hides are known for their exceptional softness and their ability to be washed. Chamois leather also falls into the category of aldehyde tanning and like brain tanning produces a highly water absorbent leather. Chamois leather is made by using oils traditionally cod oil that oxidize easily to produce the aldehydes that influence the final colour. Most often deerhide is used to make chamois. In earlier times, tanning hides was an essential skill practiced by First Nations people across this continent. Before woven cloth was introduced by Europeans, animal skins were used for clothing, footwear, shelter and glue. The most common procedure involved soaking in some sort of emollient oil compound, hours of scraping, and the addition of some sort of preservative or tanning agent. The tanning agents could be found in tree barks or other vegetative sources, but oily mixtures made from animal brains or fish oils were also used as preservatives. The Best Hides for Tanning The skins from almost any animal can be tanned, but some skins are distinctly better than others depending on the ultimate application in mind. Rabbit hide, for example is useless if you are in need of a durable pair of moccasins, but strips of tanned rabbit fur can be woven into a cozy, light weight jacket or added as an adornment to baby clothing or ceremonial regalia. If the edges of the strips are sewn together and then the short strips joined end to end, the fur can be knitted as if it were wool. The hides from deer, moose and elk are all strong and pliable but none of them make good rugs because the hair falls out too readily. With the hair left on, bear and buffalo make good rugs and blankets. Even Small Scraps of Hide were Useful Tanning hides was so much work that a use was found for every little bit of the final product. Scraps of rawhide or even tanned hide were made into long pieces of lacing by starting at an outside edge and cutting in a continuous circle into the middle of the leather. A surprising long strip can be made that way. Mothers also made small toys for their children from scraps of hide. Leftover leather would often be turned into glue. Tanners would place scraps of hides in a container of water and let them deteriorate for months. The smelly mixture would then be placed over a fire to boil off the water to produce hide glue. The landing was so rough that the plane was toppled and the propeller broke. Fortunately the pilot and his passengers were all bush men and knew how to create a shelter and hunt for food. They were lucky enough to kill a moose and weeks later flew home with the original propeller intact. They had made glue from the moose hide and it was strong enough to withstand the tremendous forces that are put on a rotating propeller.

Chapter 2 : Tanning - Wikipedia

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Remember, these are not strict rules; these are just guidelines to follow. In general, though, these things indicate low quality or poor design but were nonetheless popular during the mid-century period: Step-up side tables - Yes, they were very popular during the 50s and 60s in America and are immediately recognizable as being from the period but they are not good. As far as I am aware, no serious designer ever made a step-up side table. Brass capped spindle legs - For the most part, although there are notable exceptions, most furniture that you will find in America with brass feet on the end of spindle legs is low-end. Faux wood or faux marble laminate - Tables and credenzas with fake wood or marble plastic laminate tops are not good pieces. There is a place for laminate; Saarinen used it on many of his table tops, but it was just one solid color. Mixing styles - Notice that the handle in this photo is not a modernist handle. It looks like it is trying to be antique. This is a really ugly design. This also goes for sort-of-modernist furniture that has antique style beveled edges with more than one ridge, like molding. Lane - Lane furniture is bad, just plain bad mid-century design. I also think Heywood Wakefield and American of Martinsville are bad too. Here are some things that you might think are signs of bad design, low-quality or just things you should avoid buying but which are not: Wood Veneer - Almost all high-end Danish furniture besides chairs is made with teak or rosewood veneer placed over cheaper wood like pine or plywood or wood composite material. I am not talking about a layer of plastic laminate, I am talking about a thinly sliced layer of real wood. Lots of good mid-century American furniture too has real walnut wood veneer. It is extremely rare for any Danish table, credenza, wall unit, bed etc. Naugahyde - Fake leather, naugahyde or "pleather" is not bad. Real leather on a piece of mid-century furniture is almost a sure sign of it being high-end but naugahyde is not necessarily a sign of low quality. Eames, Saarinen, Panton, Starck and Begge all had their most iconic chairs made from plastic and fiberglass. Watch out though, there are lots of chairs made to look like these iconic designs. If you are unfamiliar with the originals just image search them and memorize their shape. Look up "Eames replica" and "Saarinen knockoff" to find out what not to buy. Signs of higher-end, collectable stuff I would probably buy are: Origin - If it is marked "Made in Denmark" I would probably buy it. This is because in America almost anything Danish is collectable these days. There is junk from all those places too, especially Danish teak stuff made in the 50s but these are just general guidelines after all. There is a lot of good American furniture but I would never buy any modernist furniture just because it was marked "Made in USA. I would not buy anything Danish "looking" that was marked "Made in Canada" or "Yugoslavia". This is because those two places and then later on Thailand and Indonesia because of the abundance of teak wood are basically considered to be where all of the knockoff Danish furniture was made. You might get a sturdy piece of furniture from there with a Danish looking design but it was not designed by a legit designer, is not collectable and will not retain its value over time. Some of the American brands that made the higher-end, collectable, modernist furniture that you might still find around are Dunbar, Calvin, Directional, Thayer Coggin and Widdicomb. Not all pieces from these companies are collectable but knowing the names is a starting point. Obviously almost all vintage Knoll and Herman Miller furniture is desirable and collectable American furniture but not the knockoffs. Ok, this is enough for now. More in another post later. Does anyone have more to add to this?

Chapter 3 : Short guide to spotting collectable and not so collectable mid-century items : Mid_Century

*Modern American Tanning: A Practical Treatise On the Manufacture of Leather [Anonymous] on calendrierdelascience.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. This is a reproduction of a book published before*

Masking agents are carboxylic acids , such as acetic acid , used to suppress formation of polychromium III chains. Collagen is characterized by a high content of glycine , proline , and hydroxyproline , usually in the repeat -gly-pro-hydro-gly-. This conversion occurs during the liming process, before introduction of the tanning agent chromium salts. The ionized carboxyl groups coordinate as ligands to the chromium III centers of the oxo-hydroxide clusters. Possible chromium III tanning mechanisms Prior to the introduction of the basic chromium species in tanning, several steps are required to produce a tannable hide. The pH must be very acidic when the chromium is introduced to ensure that the chromium complexes are small enough to fit in between the fibers and residues of the collagen. Once the desired level of penetration of chrome into the substance is achieved, the pH of the material is raised again to facilitate the process. This step is known as basification. In the raw state, chrome-tanned skins are greyish-blue, so are referred to as wet blue. Chrome tanning is faster than vegetable tanning less than a day for this part of the process and produces a stretchable leather which is excellent for use in handbags and garments. Subsequent to application of the chromium agent, the bath is treated with sodium bicarbonate to increase the pH to 4. Tannins bind to the collagen proteins in the hide and coat them, causing them to become less water-soluble and more resistant to bacterial attack. The process also causes the hide to become more flexible. The primary barks processed in bark mills and used in modern times are chestnut , oak , redoul , tanoak , hemlock , quebracho , mangrove , wattle acacia; see catechol , and myrobalans from Terminalia spp. Hides are stretched on frames and immersed for several weeks in vats of increasing concentrations of tannin. Vegetable-tanned hide is not very flexible and is used for luggage, furniture, footwear, belts, and other clothing accessories. Alternative chemicals[edit] Wet white is a term used for leathers produced using alternative tanning methods that produce an off-white colored leather. Like wet blue, wet white is also a semifinished stage. Wet white can be produced using aldehydes , aluminum, zirconium, titanium, or iron salts, or a combination thereof. Concerns with the toxicity and environmental impact of any chromium VI that may form during the tanning process have led to increased research into more efficient wet white methods. Natural tanning[edit] The conditions present in bogs, including highly acidic water, low temperature, and a lack of oxygen, combine to preserve but severely tan the skin of bog bodies. Tawing[edit] Tawing is a method that uses alum and aluminium salts, generally in conjunction with other products such as egg yolk, flour, and other salts. Adding egg yolk and flour to the standard soaking solution further enhances its fine handling characteristics. Then, the leather is air dried crusted for several weeks, which allows it to stabilize. Tawing is traditionally used on pigskins and goatskins to create the whitest colors. However, exposure and aging may cause slight yellowing over time and, if it remains in a wet condition, tawed leather will suffer from decay. Technically, tawing is not tanning. Suedes , nubucks , etc. The first stage is the preparation for tawing. The second stage is the actual tawing and other chemical treatment. The third stage, known as retawing, applies retawing agents and dyes to the material to provide the physical strength and properties desired depending on the end product. The fourth and final stage, known as finishing, is used to apply finishing material to the surface or finish the surface without the application of any chemicals if so desired. Health and environmental impact[edit] Tanned fish skin of salmon The tanning process involves chemical and organic compounds that can have a detrimental effect on the environment. Agents such as chromium, vegetable tannins, and aldehydes are used in the tanning step of the process. However, other processes and chemicals are involved. These processes also use large quantities of water and produce large amounts of pollutants. In , the city became the largest exporter of leather. Farmland is swamped with blue-tinted water, poisoned with chromium III, lead, and arsenic. Decades of contamination in the air, water, and soil have caused a variety of diseases in the people who live in the area. Health problems include asthma, eyesight problems, and skin problems include: Methyl isothiazolinone , which is used for microbiological protection fungal or bacterial growth , causes problems with the eyes and skin. Anthracene , which is used as a

leather tanning agent, can cause problems in the kidneys and liver and is also considered a carcinogen. Formaldehyde and arsenic, which are used for leather finishing, cause health problems in the eyes, lungs, liver, kidneys, skin, and lymphatic system and are also considered carcinogens. The use of old technologies plays a large factor in how hazardous wastewater results in contaminating the environment. This is especially prominent in small and medium-sized tanneries in developing countries.

Chapter 4 : Dorothea Tanning | MoMA

Modern American tanning; a practical treatise on the manufacture of leather, v

Its all dried out and in my fridge. Can you tell me the process to begin the tanning? What do I do? Brain Tanning is natural , traditional and exceptionally inexpensive. Lye is causic, and battery acid definitely is too! To make lye, you rinse the water through the ashes in a trough, so that the runoff goes in a bucket. I hope to post the results of my raccoon skins when I do tan them properly, as I want to make pouches, and of course, a Daniel Boone kinda hat. It just felt right. So, I skinned it, my friend came back from the store, I was done giving my dog shit for killing a rabbit, even though it was in his nature, and it was ridiculous of my friend to have done such a thing. I diverged from my story, which was about using water and wood ashes. Not sure what kind of wood, but I think there is a kind of wood to use to make the best kind of lye, not just any old wood ash. I would have to find that out, unless someone reading this might know and elucidate on this subject? Thanks for putting this kind of knowledge, Marie. What else can I use? Also, can I use baking soda in place of the Alum? Want to start the tanning process for my rabbit skins, so, I need to get answers soon. Going to make slippers out of them. This will cause slippage of the fur. For things with thin skins you can purchase tanning cream solutions from nearly any taxidermy supply company. The creams are safe, reliable, fairly cheap and best of all can be applied and then froze with no worry of slippage. Please make sure it is a tanning "cream" and not tanning oil. You simply add a generous layer to the skin side of your mount being careful to avoid the fur as much as possible and wait the recommended time on the packaging. Then proceed as normal for the mount you are doing. A word of caution, do not use the tanning creams on things with thicker skins. The cream is great but has its limitations for proper penetration of animals with thicker skins, such as bear. Alpaca has no oils or lanalin in the fleece so would the procedure be altered any for their hides? Its about 20 degrees outside. Can they be airdried in this temperature or should I salt them, throw them in the freezer and wait for warmer weather? Not only on my hides, but in desposal. Second, rabbit hides do NOT need to be tanned with an acid. Give it at least a couple days in the freezer, with the salt, before processing. Scrape the flesh off, starting at the tail and work towards the neck. It rips easy, so be firm but gentle. Once fleshed, hand wash in your favorite mild detergent or shampoo, only using squeezing action, never wring it. Rinse well, squeeze out excess water. Blow dry for a bit to kick start the drying, and fluff the fur a little. Hang in a warm, dry place, out of reach of pets. Once they are nearly dry, but still cold feeling damp , start stretching and working. Work each fur a while, then let it dry more, before working it again. As you work the fur, the hide becomes white, soft and pliable. After skinning I dried them with salt then a week or so later I went through the process. Upon pulling them out of the battery acid solution the skins began to fall apart on me, I have no idea why. This was my first attempt at tanning of any kind and any advise that a pro woodsman out there could give me would be much appreciated. I recently did a mount of the first whitetail doe that I had shot several years ago. She was in the freezer for about four years and the mount turned out beautiful. Just wash out any blood from the fur, wrap in newspaper and freeze. I was told that once you have the number of skins you need to make your coat or boots, etc. First, Is this true? How long can the skins remain frozen untill they are no longer usefull? What can I do to stop this? It is very stiff. Will the hair fall out? The one I have is "crunchy" on the skin side. The husband bought Bran Flakes cereal. I want to use the wheat bran that is available at the health food stores I dread the thought of having to try to wash and brush cereal mush out my lambskins. The hair is nearly 3-inches long. Can you imagine the mess that cereal is going to make on these? I then air dried it overnight about 46 degrees and then brushed out what I could.

Chapter 5 : 8 Female Surrealists Who Are Not Frida Kahlo€"from Meret Oppenheim to Dorothea Tanning

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Chapter 6 : Modern Nail's & Tanning N Rochester Rd Rochester, MI Manicurists - MapQuest

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Chapter 7 : Modern Times: American Art

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Chapter 8 : Tanning (leather) - Wikipedia

Modern American tanning ; a practical treatise on the manufacture of leather, compiled from original articles describing modern methods printed in "Hide and leather" and written by well known tannery foremen, superintendents and chemists.

Chapter 9 : An overview of tanning hides - both ancient and modern methods

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