

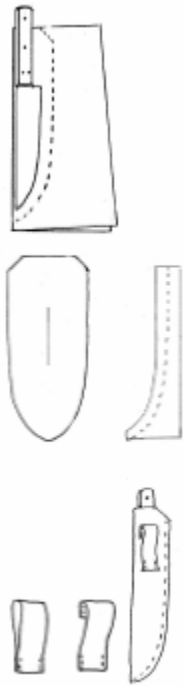
Military Knife Sheath for Scalper

by Gene Hickman

Illustrated by Susan Hickman

Materials: About 1 square foot (30 cm x 30 cm) of heavy black leather. It may be desirable to make the pattern before selecting the leather. Review the Leather working procedures on the Honor Guard Website.

Procedure:



1. Make a pattern by laying the knife on a folded sheet of heavy paper as shown in 1st figure. Draw line from tip of knife about 3/8" out from edge. Continue line straight up from blade to accommodate thickness of handle, making sure pattern is large enough to accommodate the handle.
2. Remove the knife and cut out the pattern from leather (2nd figure).
3. Cut out a welt piece from scrap edge that matches knife sheath curve (3rd figure). This will fit all along the edge and will "sandwich" between the pieces when sewn, protecting threads from knife edge and giving "thickness" to the sheath.

4. Cut out a belt loop 7"X1" for attaching sheath to the belt.
5. Attach the belt loop to the back of the sheath as shown. Keep top of loop at least 1" from top edge of the sheath. Two options for attaching loops to back of sheath are shown. Make sure loop is big enough to accommodate your belt with a little extra.

6. You may want to moisten leather where it will be folded. Fold sheath tightly, right side out, with welt "sandwiched" between pieces. It is desirable to tack leather in place with rubber cement such as Barge. Clamp with large paper clamps or weights until dry.

7. Punch with awl, chisel punch or drive punch, then saddle stitch (last figure) with waxed linen thread. DO NOT use a leather punch that makes round holes.

8. Moisten upper inside area of sheath and insert knife to the desired depth. (Handle should go only part way into the sheath.) Keep knife in the sheath until leather dries.
9. Sand edge of leather to smooth up the edge. Dye with black leather or shoe dye along edges, if needed.