

# Rolled edge



A rolled edge works best with firm leather that is thin. Depending on the size of the project, the thickness of the leather will vary a bit. For a small purse, pockets can be 1-2 oz. For something that needs more substance such as a briefcase, use leather that is a bit heavier such as 2-3 oz. No matter the project, a veg tanned calfskin or kangaroo works well for the interior.

Allow enough leather on the pocket design to be folded over and still stitched. Before folding over, skive the edge to a feather edge. Dampen and fold with fingertips to set the fold line. Apply contact cement to area to be folded. Allow cement to nearly dry, fold over, and tap flat with a smooth faced steel shoe hammer. Be gentle when tapping fold.

When dry, machine stitch along topline as shown in picture. Use #69 thread and a #100 or #110 size needle. Backstitch to make sure ends won't come unraveled. You can even seal thread ends with a drop of Super Glue on backside.

After rolling edge, lightly polish and finish raw edges on the other three sides. Stitch pocket down to lining after checking proper positioning on lining. A double row of stitches around pocket is not a bad idea for heavier use. Use same thread and needle combination.

A rolled edge gives a finished appearance to pockets as well as more stability for long term use.