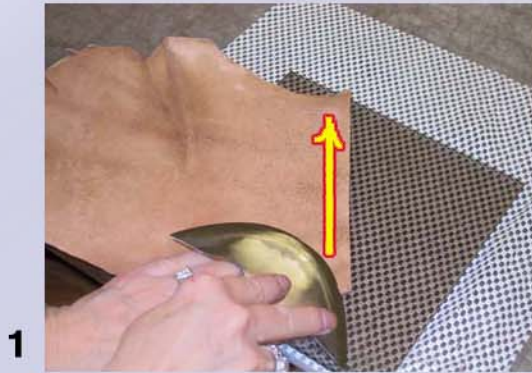


# Skiving with the round knife



**Slice your leather without ever changing the position of the knife until cut is completed.**



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**Slice with the long flat side of your round knife in the direction of the arrow along the entire length of leather to be skived. When leather is skived to a "feather edge", you will not be able to discern where the leather ends and the glass begins. Run your fingernail off the edge of the leather. If it makes a click when leaving the edge of the leather, the leather is not skived to a feather edge. If you hear no sound with your fingernail, the leather is skived to a feather edge. Slice with a long flat angle to get a good skive.**

# Front view of correct skiving procedure



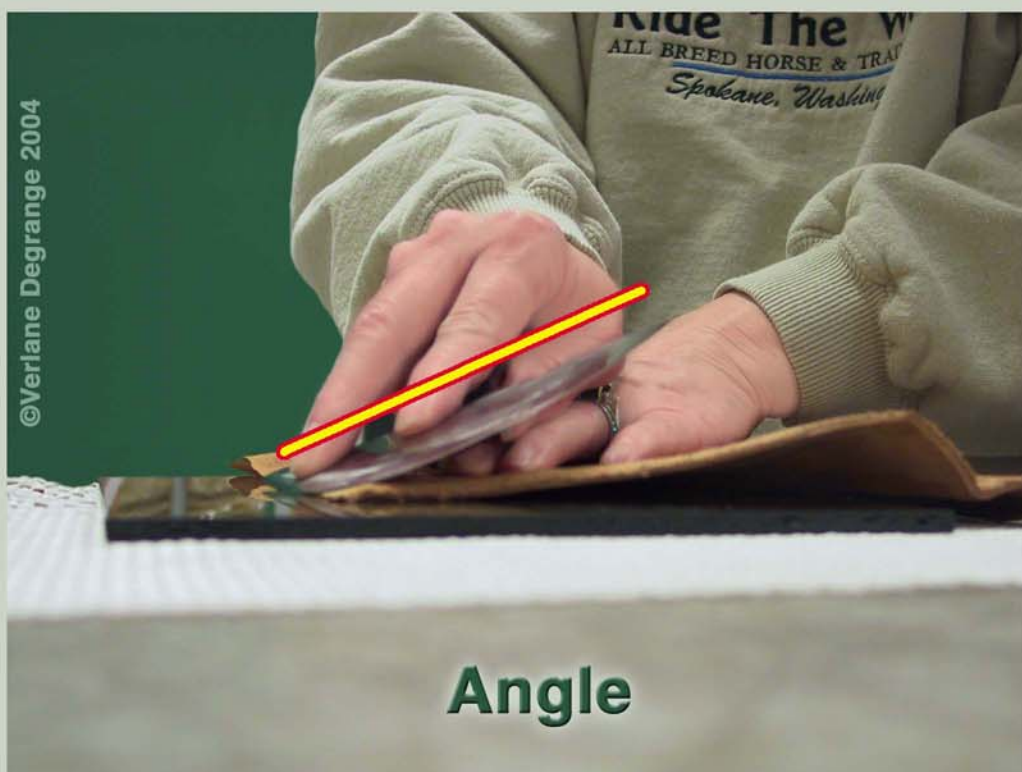
**Direction**

**Direct frontal view shows knife slicing leather. In this view, knife is coming directly at the viewer.**

**NEVER place yourself in front of anyone skiving directly toward you. A knife can slip at any time.**

**Showing low angle of knife. Knife barely skims over your knuckles of the hand that's holding the leather down on a piece of plate glass.**

**ALWAYS keep holding hand well behind and below motion of knife.**



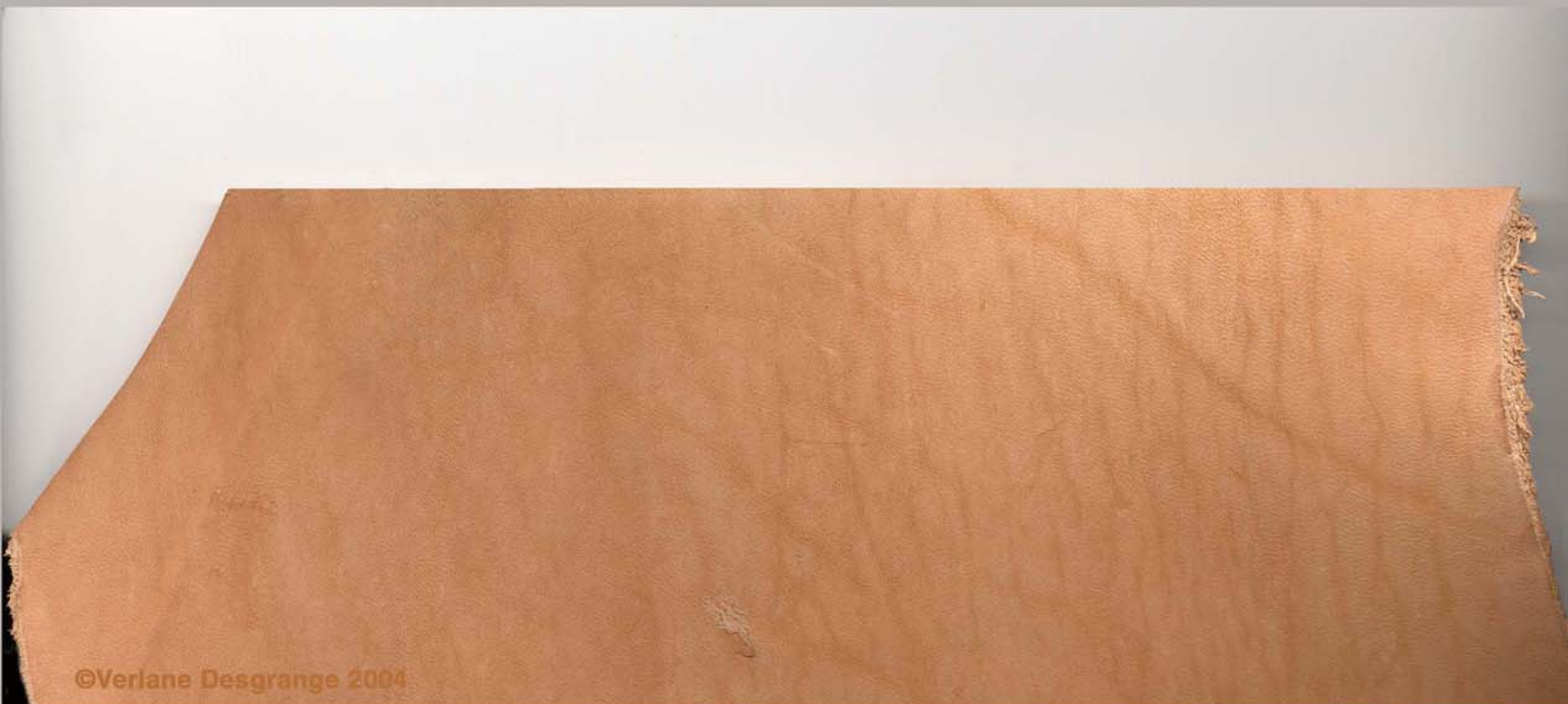
**Angle**

# Skived leather

(actual size)

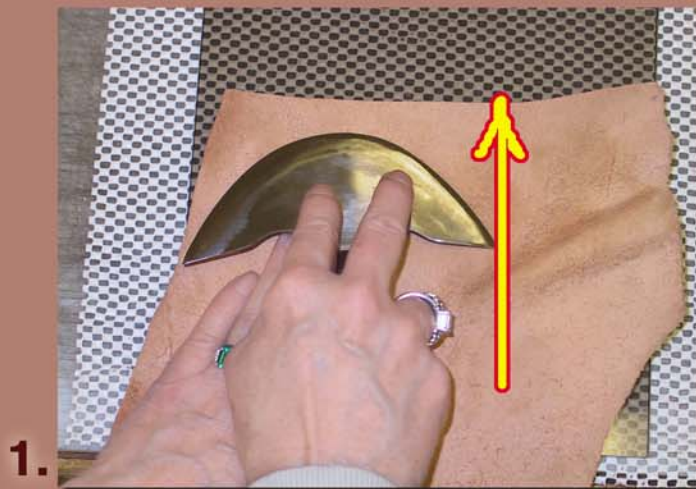


**F.S. (flesh side) skived to feather edge. Notice that the back of the grain side is visible on the top most edge of the skive. If you don't see the grain side from the FS, you're not skived to a feather edge. Notice wide even skive that one cut with a round knife will produce.**



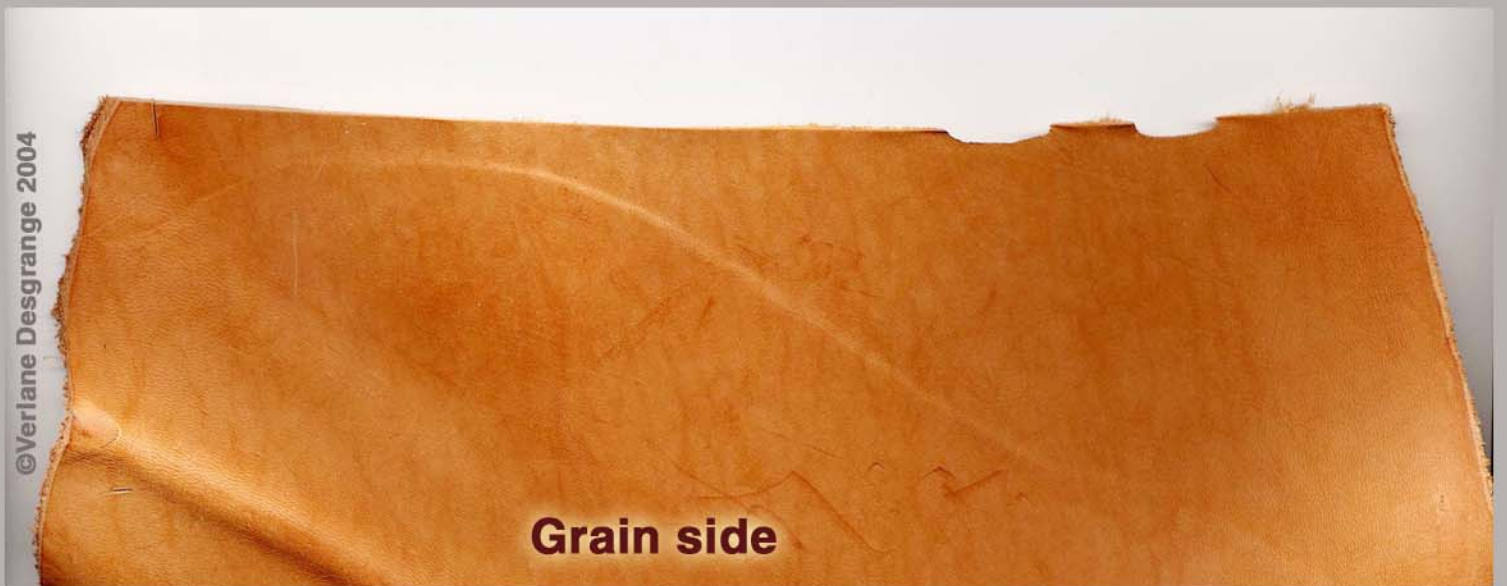
**Feather edge as seen from the G.S. (grain side). Notice long clean edge only a good knife cut will give. Only a knife will give a straight edge such as this one.**

# How not to skive leather



By pushing the round knife, leather comes off in small pieces instead of one continuous piece. This leads to irregular edge that looks choppy or chewed. Notice we began with a straight edge on our leather, only to wind up with a wavy edge: not the desired outcome. Arrow shows incorrect direction of cut: knife is being pushed away from you. Compare with correct pictures.

# Incorrectly skived leather



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Skives like this are usually the result of pushing the round knife away from you when trying to skive. The pushing motion gives an irregular edge that is wavy or chewed looking. There is a lot of inconsistency in the edge, from feather edge to rather thick. There is also a gash in the right hand corner of the FS (flesh side) view: it's easy to hook your knife into the leather, causing an unnecessary cut that may not be fixable. Learn correct knife technique to avoid wasting leather or ruining a saddle part.