

BARGROUNDE R



info

Above: actual size for 1 1/2" belt
Below: twice actual size



Bargrounders need to be the size for the pattern to be carved. Or stated another way, the pattern needs to be designed to fit the tool. The bargrounder itself must be rotated so that when struck it fills up the distance between two pattern elements (light blue lines). You can see how the position of the bargrounder changes in relation to other bargrounder impressions. The bargrounding process is efficient when done this way. The idea is to fill up the spaces with the fewest strikes on the tool while rotating the tool slightly as the background space demands. This background was not first matted down and then the bargrounder worked on top of that. A bargrounder works best when the leather is only slightly damp. Otherwise it's easy to punch through even heavy leather. This sample is 10 oz belt leather done by Cliff Ketchum in 1974.