

Basic hand tool list for leatherworking

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Symbols on quality grade:

A+-finest available, ready to use when received

A-very good, sometimes needs a touch-up before use; varies with each tool

B-serviceable, may need work before use when first out of the box

H-hobby grade, not suitable for professional work unless only tool of its kind available

HM-homemade, these necessary tools not sold and must be made

*-optional

Shipping costs are not shown in the prices for tools

Check prices, for they can change at any time

Some of the tools listed, such as new Osborne, are available from many sources. The sources listed here are for your convenience. You may wish to check all suppliers for selection and price. Not all suppliers print a catalog, especially those who cater to professionals.

The tools listed are currently available and in production. Many of them are handmade and will require a waiting time. For old refurbished tools such as Gomph or old Osborne, check with Bob Douglas for his current supply. The listed tools below are designed for the professional leather worker. While cheaper tools are available, they are not listed for they will not give professional results or retain a sharp edge with heavy use.

Name of tool	Quantity	Quality grading	Comments and Catalog number and cost when known	Source of Supply
Round knife	1	A+	BBVX Specify length of handle to fit your hand \$105	Bill Buchman
*Small round knife	1	A+	B2VX Specify length of handle to fit your hand \$65	Bill Buchman
*Leather scissors	1	A+	#3048-00; \$39.99	Leather Factory
U-Shaped 3/32" gouge	1	B	Catalog # 1226-00; \$16.95	Hide Crafter

Edge tools		A+	Concord edgers, all sizes Check prices	Bob Douglas
		A+	Or: Edgers (round bottom) sizes: #4 \$88.80 #6 \$91.20 #8 \$93.60	Ron's Tools
Small edger	1	A+	Montana edger, #4; \$68.40	Ron's Tools
French edgers	1	A+	(Flat bottom) Sizes :	Ron's Tools
	1		#3 \$82.80	
	1		#6 \$86.40 #11 \$92.40	
Stitching groover	1	A+	Versa Groover with all 3 sizes of tips, \$89 + tips. This is the best ever tool designed for the job.	Bob Douglas
Awl haft	3	B	Osborne #145, catalog #3945-00; \$19.99	Hide Crafter
Awl blades	3	A-	2" diamond shaped awl blade	O.Baltor
	3	A-	2 1/2" diamond shaped awl blade	O. Baltor
	3	A-	3" diamond shaped awl blade	O. Baltor
	2	A-	3 1/2" diamond shaped awl blade	O. Baltor
	2	A-	2'-2/12" round awl blade	O. Baltor
Machine hook needle or jerk needle	3	A-	#5, Catalog #51120-001; \$12.99 per pkg of 6	Leather Factory
X-Actor knife	1	A	#1 knife handle and pointed blade	Wal-mart Art supply stores
Flat nose pliers	1	A	Made by Channelok®, about \$20	Hardware stores
Hemostats	1	A	Buy the smaller size with curved nose	Fishing tackle stores or medical supply stores
Small scratch awl	4	A	Osborne awl #4, size #1, Catalog #1338-01; \$3.95	Hide Crafter
Fid (modified scratch awl)	1	A	Osborne awl #4, size #2, Catalog #1338-02, \$4.95	Hide Crafter
Modeling tool	1	B	8031-00; \$6.99	Leather Factory
Wing divider	1	H	Catalog # 3607-00, \$10.99	Leather Factory
Creaser	1	B	Osborne , Catalog #1227; size #3, \$11.95	Hide Crafter

Overstitchers	1	A+	Size #5 \$45 Size #6 \$45 Size #7 \$45	Jeremiah Watt
Bench iron	1	HM	Piece of steel about 1/2" thick And 3" x 4"	Steel supply places
Edge burnishers	2	HM	Made from grainless hardwood sticks, 6" long, 5/8" square and 3/4" square	Lumber yards or Woodworking supply places
Jeweler's ring file	1	A+	6" long, #3 or #4 cut pattern; you'll need to buy a handle to go with this	Gesswein
Strop	1	HM	Made from pine 1" x 3" about 18" long overall	Lumber yard for wood
Sanding block	1	HM	Small block of wood, about 4" long and 2" x 3"	Lumber yard
Shot loaded leather weight bags	4	HM	Use #6 lead shot for filler and 3-4 oz leather whose color will not bleed out	Sporting stores for lead shot
Tack hammer	1	A	Horse shoeing hammer, either #10 or #14, about \$29	Farm and ranch stores for hammer
Leather crafter's hammer	1	A	Osborne, catalog #1360-00; \$24.95	Hide Crafter
Maul	1	A+	Barry King maul, used for drive punches in this context; 24 oz, Catalog #1365-02; \$55.00	Hide Crafters
Ball peen hammer	1	A	Any reasonably heavy household ball peen hammer can be used	Hardware stores
Draw gauge	1	A+	Twist handle model, \$99.50	Weaver Leather
			Or: Wooden strap cutter, catalog # 3080-00; \$19.99	Leather Factory
Flat nose jeweler's pliers	1	A	Use for pulling tacks	Wal-Mart or hardware stores
Wooden clothespins	6	HM	Used for making edge daubers	Wal-Mart
*Small adjustable wrench	1	A	Various uses	Wal-Mart
Lace cutter	1		Stript-Eaze no longer available; you can make a good lace cutter from hardwood or buy a lace tool from a catalog	
Long handled end cutters	1	A	Used for cutting off rivets, so a 15" or longer handle is mandatory, about \$20-\$30	Hardware stores

Various sizes of screwdrivers	1	A	A set of screw drivers is useful for many applications	Hardware stores
Revolving punch	1	A	Osborne, Catalog #1298; \$79.95	Hide Crafters
Drive punch set	1	A-	35008-00, \$49.99; tubes need touching up	Leather Factory
Bag punches	1	A-	Osborne (may need touch up) One each of the following sizes: 1/2", #1262-01; 39.95 5/8", #1262-02; 39.95 3/4", #1262-03; \$39.95 7/8"	Hide Crafter
Copper rivet setter set	1	A+	Order for size #9 rivets, \$65	Bob Douglas
Slicker	1	HM	Make from 3/8" Plexiglas®	Plastics supply places
		A	Or: Wooden slicker, about \$30	Big Sky clicker Die
Snap setter	1	A	Catalog #1435; \$16.95	Hide Crafter
Stainless steel ruler, 18" long	1	A	Be sure measurements come all the way out to the end	Office supply or Machine shop supply places
Fabric measuring tape	1	A	This is a soft cloth tape. Metal carpenter's tapes are not good.	Fabric shops
Loop irons		HM	Make several sets from Plexiglas® in same widths but different thicknesses. Widths: 3/8", 1/2", 5/8", 3/4", 7/8", 1" Thicknesses: 3/16", 1/4", 3/8"	Plastic supply places
*Cantle pliers	1	B	Osborne, Catalog #1336; \$49.95 These will need to be modified to work properly. They are for saddle work but are useful for general leatherworking.	Hide Crafters
Rougher	1	A+	Catalog #1205; \$42.95	Hide Crafter
Mini clamps for stitching horse	2	HM	These are a woodworking project requiring a hinge each and slats of wood 3" wide and 3/8" thick. A springy semi-hardwood is best.	Lumber yards for supplies

Round Plexiglas® forming rods	2	HM	Made from 12” long Plexiglas® round rod, one each in 1” diameter and 3/4” diameter	Plastics supply places
Variable speed Dremel tool	1	A	Get the accessories kit with it, sanding drums, abrasives, grinding wheels, etc	Wal-mart or Hardware stores
Sponge	1	A+	O-Cello brand sponge	Wal-Mart Grocery stores
Tool box	1	A	Get tool box with wheels, removable shelf, and telescoping handle for easy moving around, about \$40	Sears Hardware stores
Micro-tip scissors	1	A+	Fiskars brand, about \$10	Fabric stores Wal-Mart

BASIC SUPPLIER'S ADDRESSES

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LEATHER

Goliger Leather
1580 Saratoga Ave, Unit A
Ventura, CA 93003
800-423-2329

Leather Factory
28 W. Boone Str
Spokane, WA 99201
509-328-9939 local calls
800-822-8437

***Weaver Leather**
P O Box 68
Mt Hope, OH 44660
800-932-8371

Montana Leather
P O Box 394
Billings, MT 59103
800-527-0227

Hermann Oak
4050 N. First Str.
St Louis, MO 63147
800-325-7950

Wickett & Craig
120 Cooper Rd
Curwensville, PA 16833
800-826-6379

Siegel of California
270 E. Hwy 246
Buellton, CA 93427
800-862-8956

Oregon Leather
110 N.W. 2nd Ave
P O Box 5577
Portland, OR 97228
800-634-8033

HAND TOOLS FOR LEATHERWORK

**Bob Douglas (refurbished Gomph,
Old Osborne, and new tools)**
46 Wakely Rd
Sheridan, WY 82801
307-737-2222

Bill Buchman (handmade knives)
63312 South Rd
Bend, OR 97701
541-382-8851

Campbell Bosworth Machinery
401 Irvine Str
Yoakum, TX 77995
800-327-9420

Big Sky Die Co.
530 Mitchell Str
Gwinn, MI 49841
800-282-4759

O. Baltor & Son
265 E Harris
S. San Francisco, CA 94080
800-622-5867

Ron's Tools
P O Box 1061
Kalispell, MT 59901
406-756-8134

Windmill English Saddle Supply
7186 Dewey Rd
Thompson, OH 44086
440-298-3018

Jeremiah Watt
Horseshoe Brand Tools
P O Box 34
Coalinga, CA 93210
209-935-2172

Hide Crafter Leathercraft
7936 Camp Bowie West.
Fort Worth, TX 76116
888-263-5277

Gesswein (jewelry supplier)
255 Hancock Ave.
P O Box 3998
Bridgeport, CT 06605
800-243-4466

***requires state tax ID resale number for purchases**

For additional tool suppliers, see Montana Leather, Oregon Leather, Weaver Leather, Siegel of California, and Leather Factory above

HARDWARE SUPPLIERS

Batz Corp
P O Box 130
Prattsville, AR 72129
800-637-7627

In addition, the these companies also supply hardware:

Leather Factory
Montana Leather
Oregon Leather
Siegel of California
Weaver Leather
Windmill English Saddle Supply

LINEN THREAD SUPPLIERS

**Campbell Bosworth
Montana Leather
Windmill English Saddle Supply**

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST TO THE SADDLEMAKER

It is recommended that you subscribe to both publications to keep up with the leatherworking world. These are the only two magazines that cater to the saddler.

**Leather Crafter's & Saddler's Journal
331 Annette Ct.
Rhineland, WI 54501
715-362-5393**

**Shop Talk
P O Box 818
Harrisonburg, VA 22803
540-434-9845**