



Basic

hand tool

pictures

A quick note.....

This series of pictures is designed to show some of the basic hand tools used in professional leather working. This is by no means a complete list, but it's for the person who wants to see a picture of the tool and its name. The uses are not given nor is any other information. This is strictly a pictorial reference.

The tools shown are a good beginner's kit of professional grade tools that will carry him/her into advanced work. Most tool lists for beginners are so oversimplified so as to limit what the craftsman can do with them. This tool selection is designed to let beginners grow into fairly accomplished craftsmen.

There is always one more tool to buy to make a particular task more efficient and tool catalogs are loaded with them. If you get the tools shown here, continue to buy professional grade tools to be able to continue to do advanced work. At this level, you will not get the results you desire with hobby grade tools. That said, bear in mind that in some instances, the only tool of its kind may be a hobby grade tool and some of them do work reasonably well for their intended purpose.

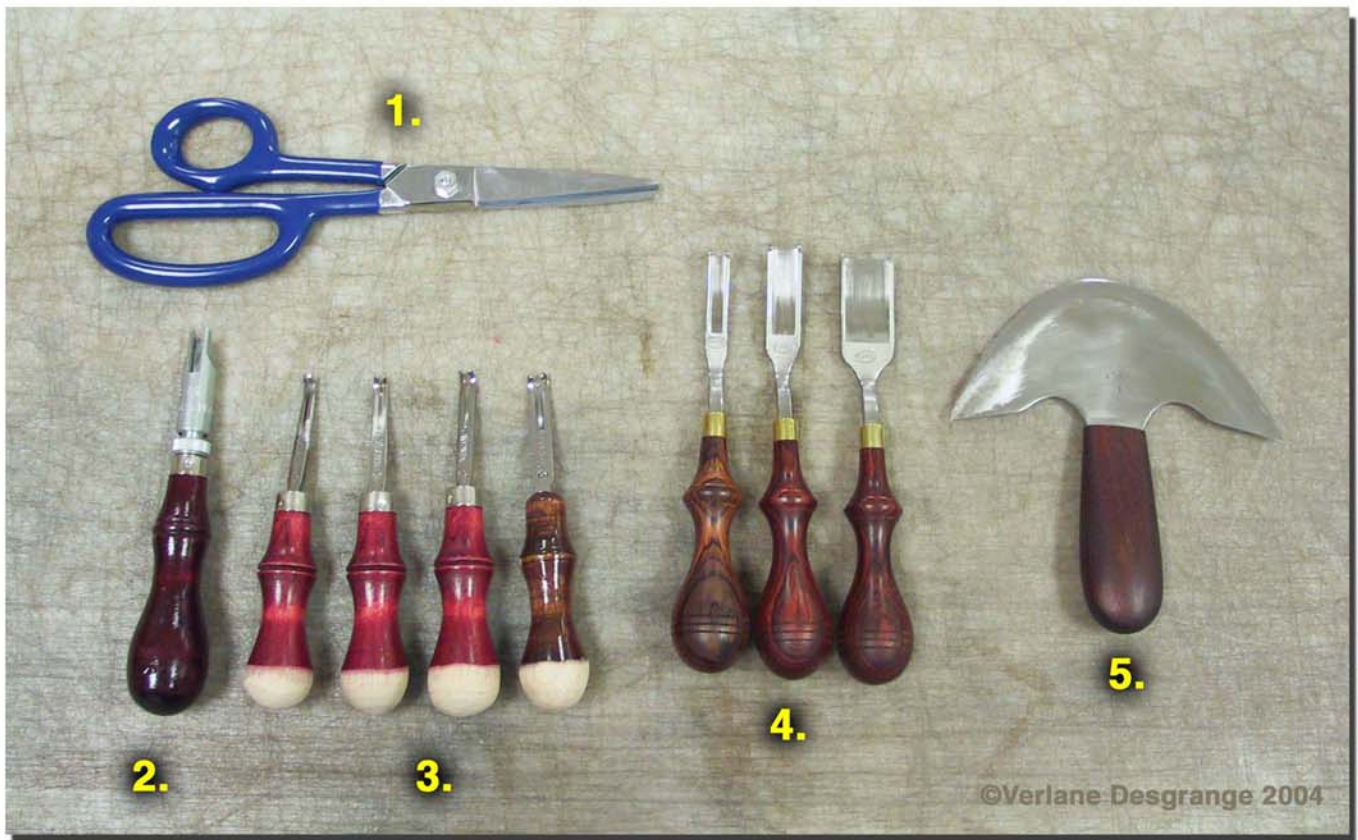
However, when it comes to anything that cuts leather, it must be maintained in a razor sharp condition. Only high quality steel will hold an edge to allow you to do the work. Many times the quality of steel is the only difference between hobby grade tools and professional grade.

Make sure the tools fit your hand size correctly. Otherwise you'll never get to first base, no matter how good the tool is. A tool is an extension of your fingers, so keep the tool length just a bit longer than your fingertips for best control.

**Happy leatherworking,
*Verlane***

Tools 1

Cutting

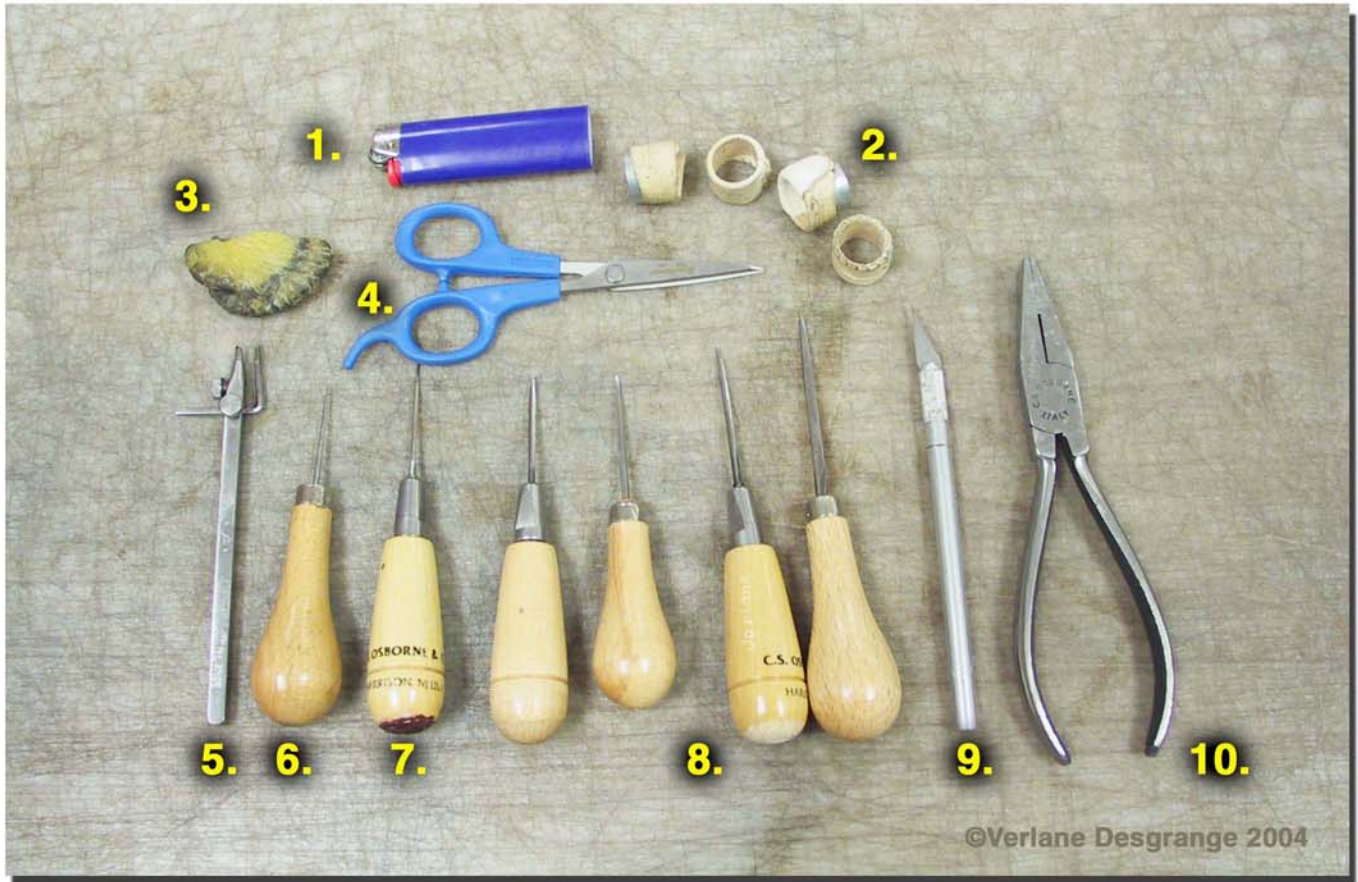


1. Leather scissors with serrated jaw
2. U-shaped gouge, 3/32" wide
3. Common edgers, sizes from small to large
4. French edgers, sizes 3, 6, 11
5. Round knife

**ANY TOOL THAT CUTS LEATHER MUST BE MAINTAINED
IN RAZOR SHARP CONDITION AT ALL TIMES**

Tools 2

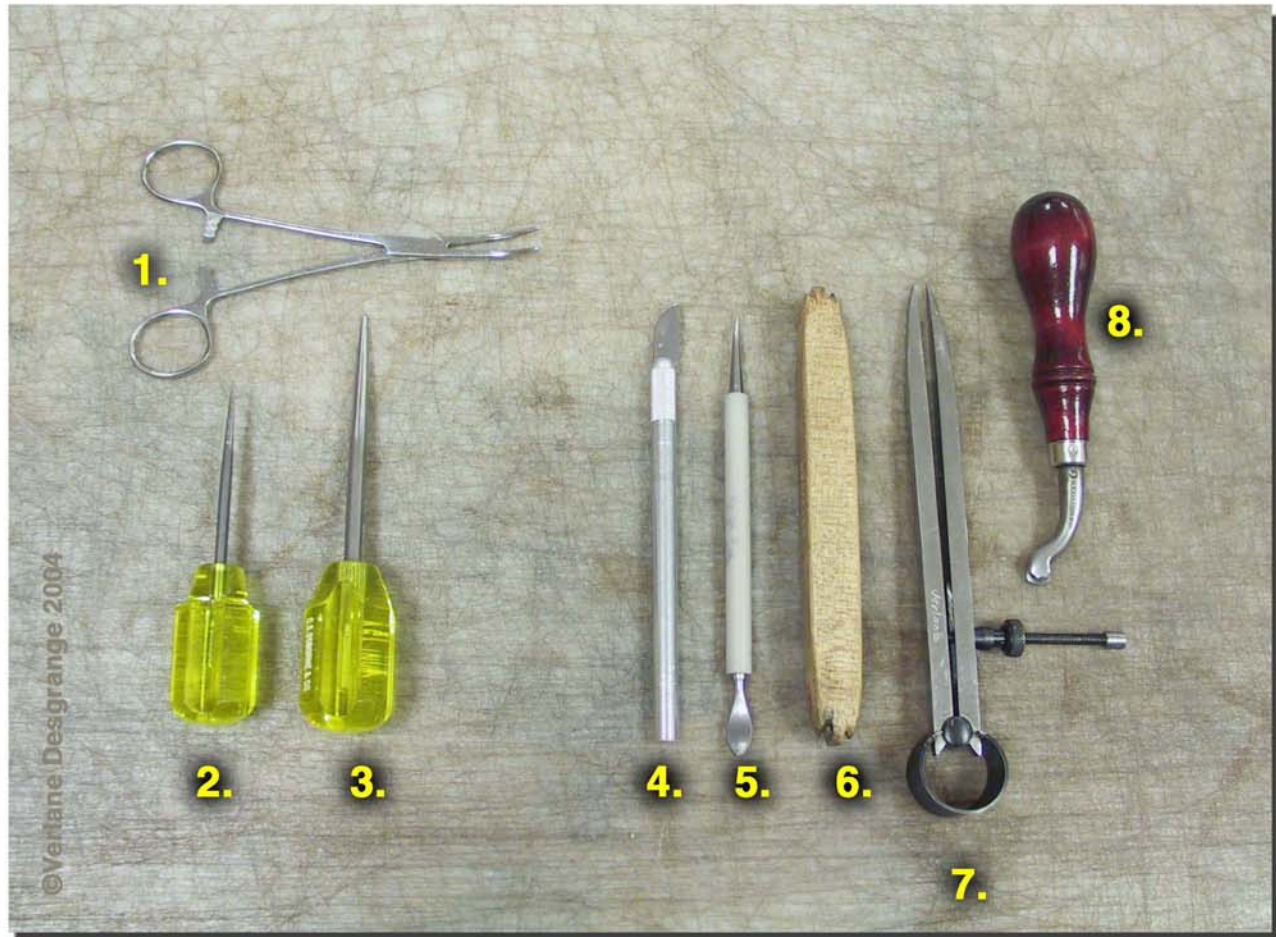
Stitching



1. **Lighter for melting wax**
2. **Finger guards (steel lined with leather covering)**
3. **Pure beeswax**
4. **Micro tip scissors**
5. **Stitching groover**
6. **Round awl, slightly blunted point**
7. **Catch hook, made from old Landis or Randall machine needle**
8. **Four diamond bladed awls**
9. **X-Acto® knife**
10. **Duck bill pliers with lightly serrated jaws**

Tools 3

Thonging & marking



1. Hemostats for pulling thongs through laces
2. Scratch awl with sharp point
3. Fid for enlarging holes and laces, blunt point
4. Dulled scalpel for accurate pattern transferring
5. Spoon modeling tool: has spoon end and stylus end
6. Homemade edge creaser with four sizes of creases
7. Compass or dividers
8. Edge creaser, #3 size

Tools 4

Stitch markers



1. #5 overstitcher
2. #6 overstitcher
3. #7 stitch marker
4. #8 stitch marker
5. #9 stitch marker

Stitch markers only mark where awl holes should be stabbed in leather. Overstitchers mark holes and can be used to burnish final stitching for neat appearance. In both cases, the number indicated is the number of stitches per inch. Thus a #7 is seven stitches per inch. Numbers shown is a good selection that will work for almost all stitching applications.

Tools 5

Burnishing, sharpening, misc



- 1. Bench iron or anvil**
- 2. Homemade sanding block**
- 3. Homemade edge burnishers**
- 4. Homemade giant nail set**
- 5. Jeweler's ring file, 6" long #3 or #4 cut**
- 6. Bar clamp (have 2 on hand)**
- 7. Homemade strop with jeweler's rouge coating**

Tools 6

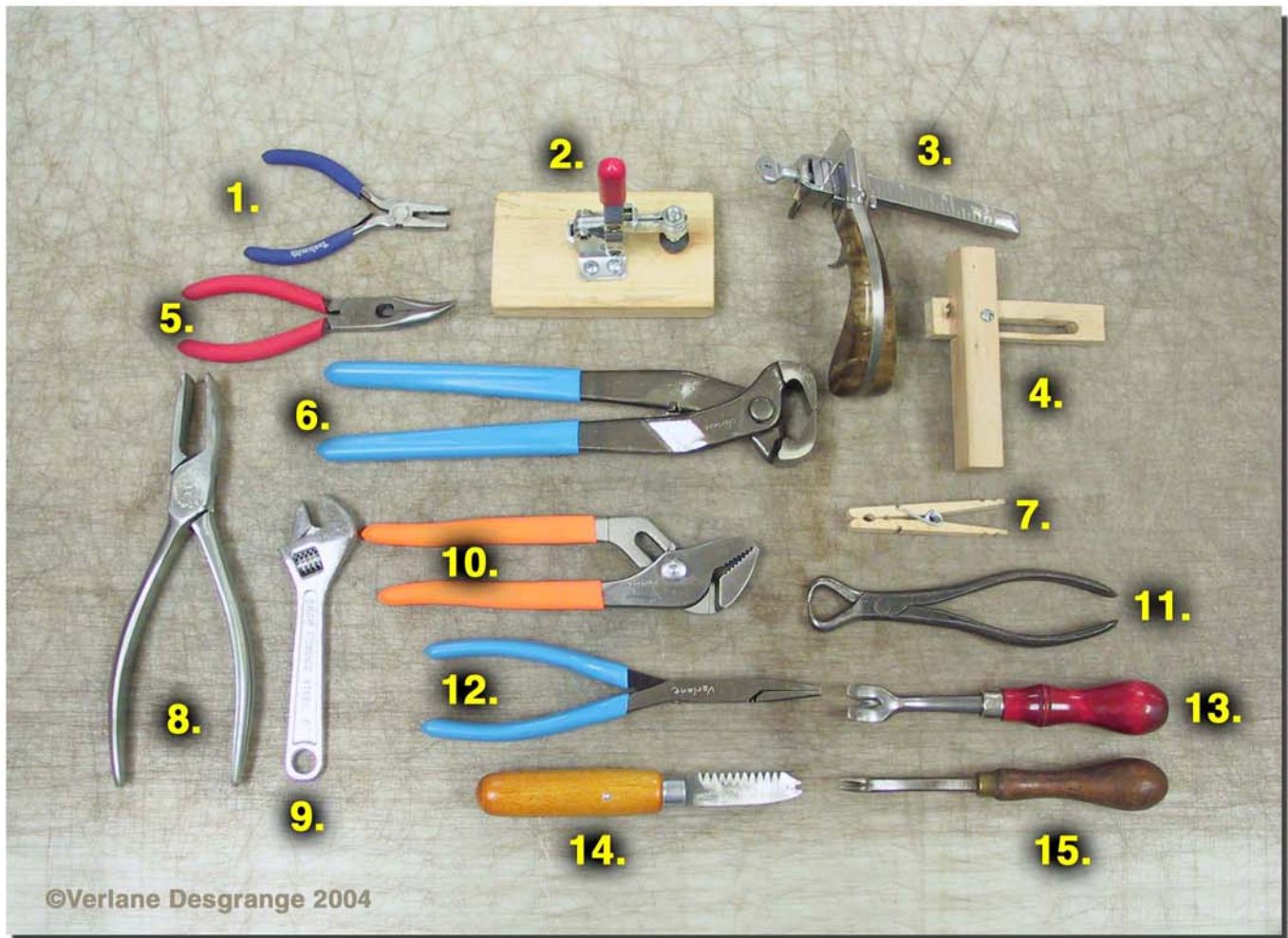
Hammers, Mauls, Shot bags



1. Lead shot loaded leather bags
2. Bricklayer's hammer with modified spade end
(front will get new face: to be welded on)
3. Auto body worker's hammer with modified spade end
4. Tack hammer (horseshoeing hammer shown)
5. Smooth face harness maker's hammer
6. Maul (stamping size shown)
7. Ball peen hammer

Tools 7

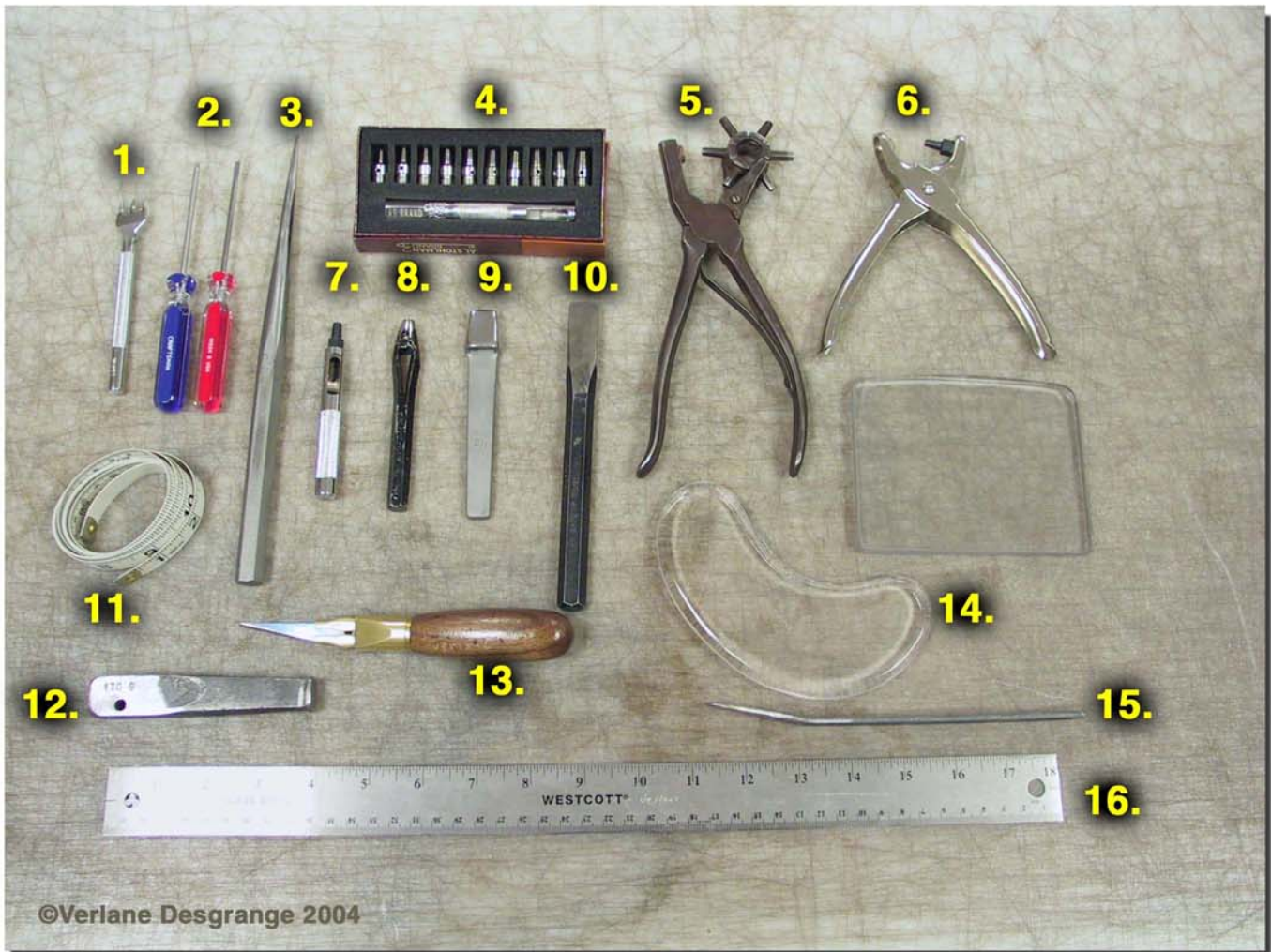
Pliers, tack pullers, misc



1. Small flat nose jeweler's pliers
2. Bench or strap clamp
3. Draw gauge for cutting straps
4. Stript-Ease for cutting lace
5. Bent nose pliers
6. End cutters
7. Wooden clothespin to make dauber
8. Modified cantle pliers
9. Adjustable wrench
10. Slip joint pliers
11. Pad nut pliers
12. Flat nose pliers
13. Tack lifter
14. Upholster's tack lifter
15. Small tack and staple lifter

Tools 8

Punches, slickers, misc



1. Thonging chisel
2. Slot and phillips head screwdrivers
3. Drawdown spike (need 4)
4. Interchangeable tube drive punches
5. Rotary punch
6. Single tube hand punch
7. Interchangeable tube drive punch
8. Oval drive punch

9. Bag punch
10. Modified chisel
11. Fabric measuring tape
12. Copper rivet setter
13. Angled blade knife
14. Plexiglas® slickers
15. Verlane's Multi-Marker™
16. Stainless steel ruler