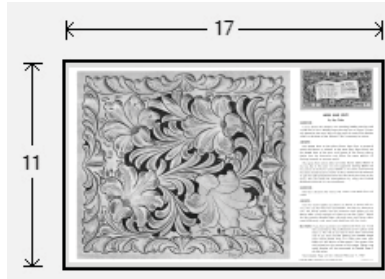




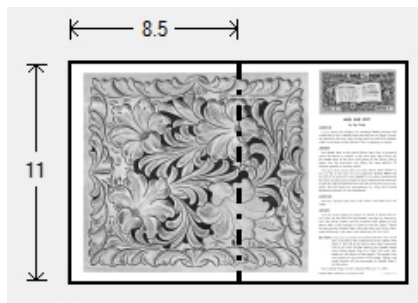
Doodle Page Digital Download

This PDF file contains 1 (one) Doodle Page. The PDF has been put together to give you options when it comes to printing. Pages and patterns that are larger than 8½x11 have been provided in two formats:



1) Full Size

If you would like to have a full size print out, take the full size pages to your local print shop and they can print it for you. All full size Doodle Pages are 11x17



2) Tiled

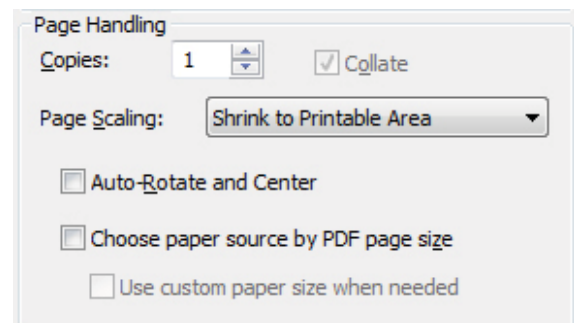
The tiled pages give you the option of printing the full sized Doodle Pages at home. You print the tiled pages and then assemble them to make the larger patterns.

The Doodle Page PDF files are typically laid out like this:

Front – full sized, front – tiled, back – full sized, back – tiled

(Some Doodle Pages do not have backs)

Please note: When printing on a home printer, the edges may get cut off. To avoid this, make sure “Page Scaling” is set to “Shrink to Printable Area” in the Adobe Reader print dialogue box. This will decrease the size of the Doodle Page a very small amount.



You may take this PDF file to your local print shop to have the full-size pages printed for your own personal use.

DOODLE PAGE of the MONTH

EACH A LESSON
 A NEW PAGE EACH MONTH
 CARVED BY THE FOREMOST
 LEATHER CRAFTSMEN
 FEATURING NEW DESIGNS,
 NEW TOOLS, AND NEW IDEAS
 TO AID AND ASSIST THE
 CRAFT IN GENERAL

IN ITSELF
 DOODLE PAGES ARE
 FREE WITH PURCHASES
 AT YOUR CRAFTFOOL
 DEALER. ASK FOR
 YOUR COPY TODAY!

PAGE 11 **SERIES 3-B**

Embossing Plugs
 by Al Stohman

There are many methods of embossing leather designs . . . but the method I like best is the use of leather plugs. I have developed this method mainly because of its simplicity and because *all* of the stamping and detail work is done from the grain side of the leather, just as it is with regular carving.

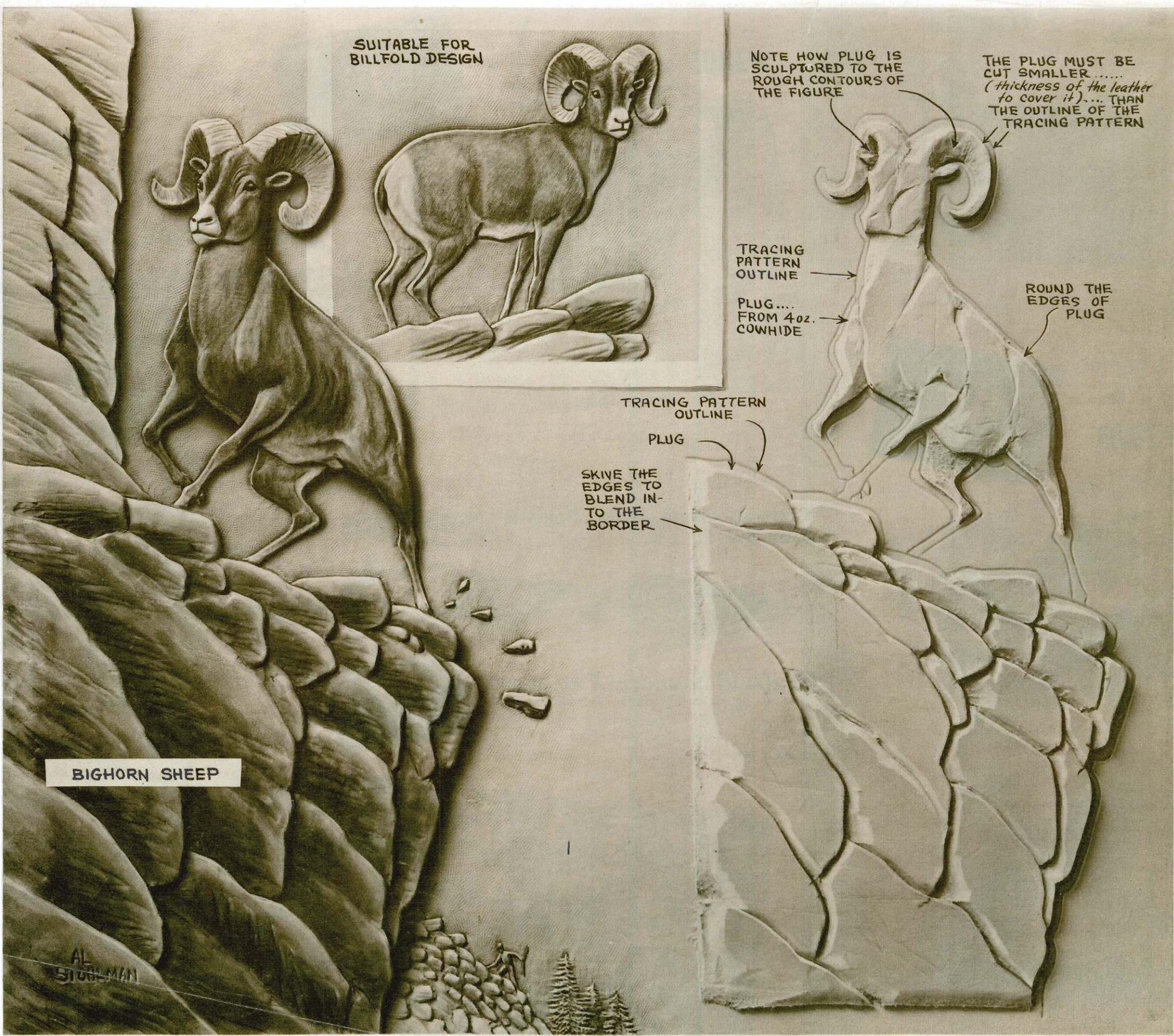
The carving leather must first be properly cased for best embossing results. The plugs can be cut from any weight (thickness) of leather desired. However, there are certain limitations that must be taken into account due to the nature of the design. For example: it would be impractical to cut the plug from 10 oz. leather (for the sheep shown) since the legs are so small and thin that no plug can be used in that area. Therefore, 4 oz. cowhide was used for the plug . . . and the ends were skived away where the plug runs into the smaller parts of the animals' legs.

You will note also that the plug is roughly formed to the contours of the animal. This is accomplished with an Xacto or sharp pointed knife blade. The edges of the plug should also be rounded so that the carving leather forms properly over the plug. One other **IMPORTANT** point to mention . . . is that the plug is cut smaller than the outline of the design. It must be cut *the thickness of the smaller carving leather* . . . otherwise the figure will be that much larger all around the plug . . . since the carving leather must cover the plug.

After the plugs have been formed . . . the cased leather should be allowed to return almost to its original color . . . the same as for regular carving. I must mention at this time that to properly case leather for embossing . . . it must first be thoroughly soaked. It is then laid out on the marble for the moisture to evaporate. The driest areas will first appear on the grain side (grain side should be laid up) . . . and this is what we are referring to when the leather starts to return to its original color. The grain side of the leather becomes firm enough to carve, yet the inside of the leather, having been thoroughly soaked, still retains much moisture content and is very pliable and susceptible to stretch.

Trace the design on the leather . . . cut with the swivel knife same as usual . . . and bevel **ONLY** around the outlines of the design. Turn the leather over, and you will note the outlines of the design plainly showing. Trace around them (on the flesh side) with a ball point pen so that they are clearly pronounced. Now, with the modeling spoon, press the areas of the figure out as much as possible. Hold the leather in your opposite hand . . . and press the depression for the plug on the flesh side as deep as possible. Cement the plug in place with rubber cement and turn over . . . laying the leather on the marble, with the grain side up. You now proceed with your carving and stamping in the regular manner. The plug remains in position. It is not removed.

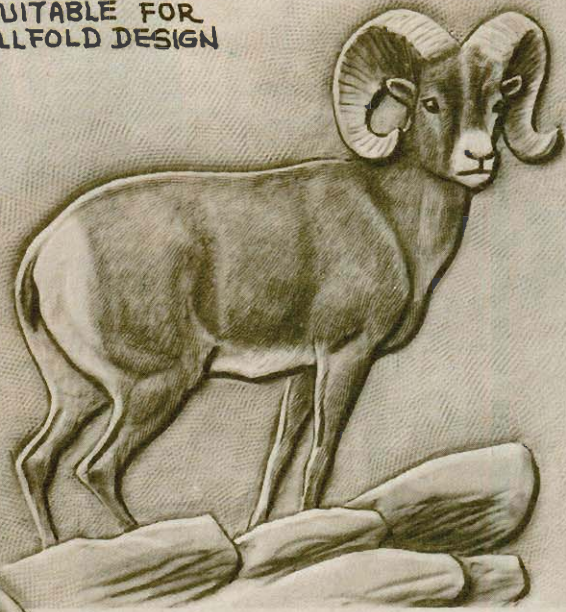
Bevel around the outlines first, to "set" the plug properly in place. Bevel the contours of the figure same as with regular figure carving instructions. You'll note the plug is firm enough to support this action. Bevel around the outlines again and matt the background areas away from the figure. Add the hair details, etc. . . . and the job is completed with no more effort than regular carving . . . and **ALL** from the front side of the leather.



BIGHORN SHEEP

AL
STOHLMAN

SUITABLE FOR
BILLFOLD DESIGN



NOTE HOW PL
SCULPTURED
ROUGH CONTO
THE FIGURE

TRACING
PATTERN
OUTLINE

PLUG...
FROM 4oz.
COWHIDE

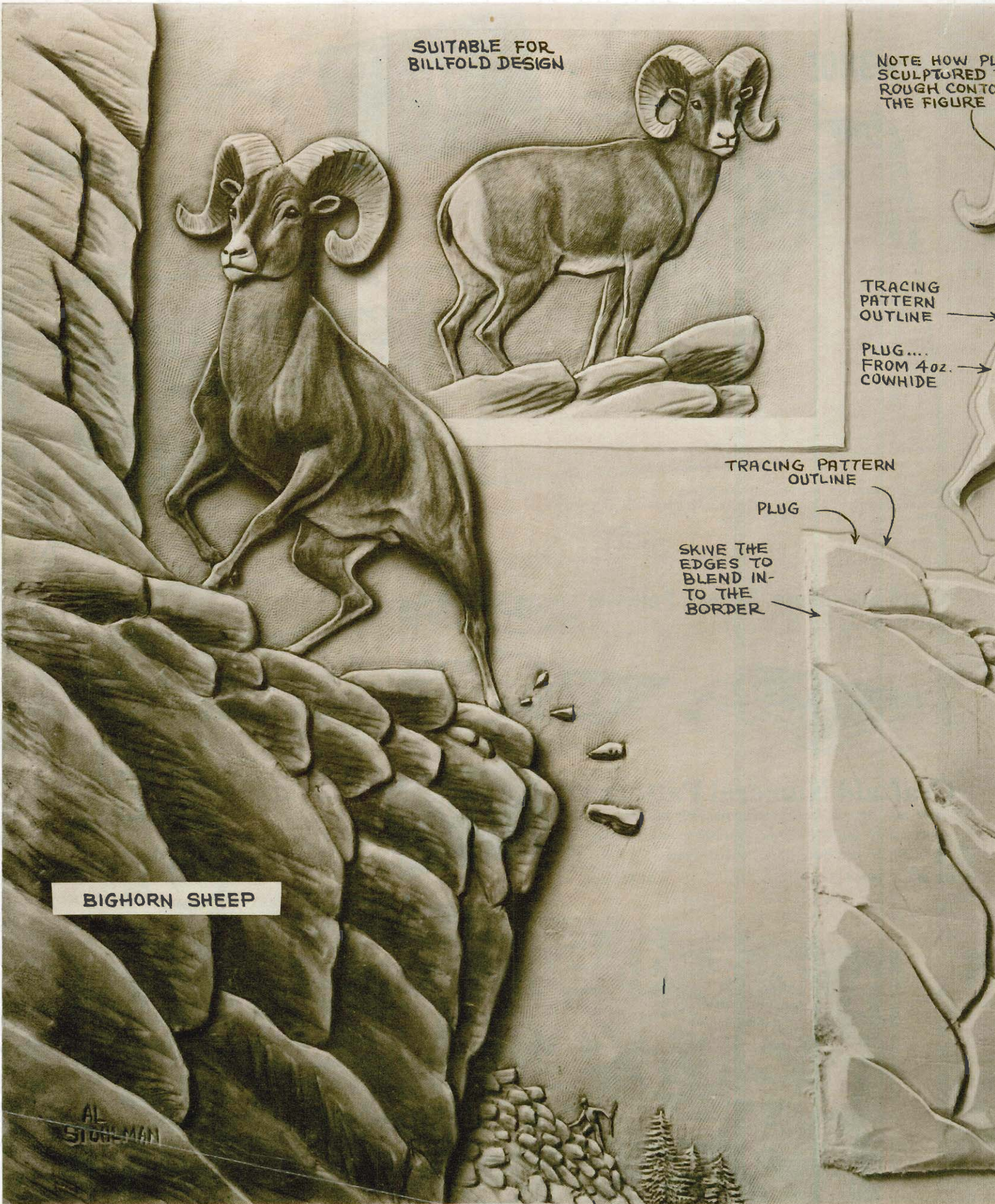
TRACING PATTERN
OUTLINE

PLUG

SKIVE THE
EDGES TO
BLEND IN-
TO THE
BORDER

BIGHORN SHEEP

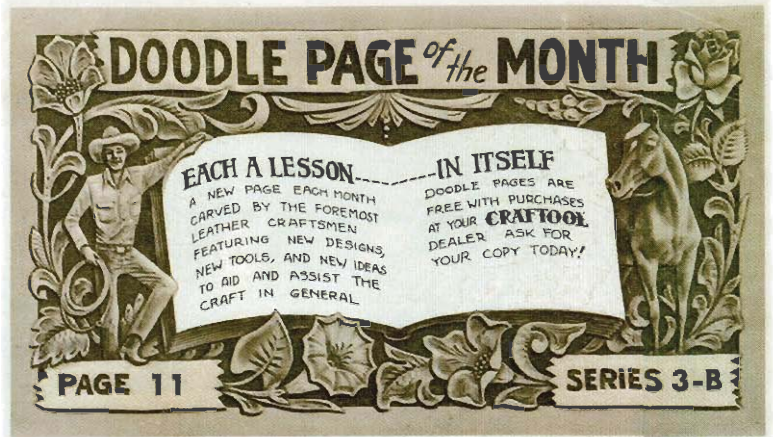
AL
STUBBMAN



PLUG IS
TO THE
CURS OF

THE PLUG MUST BE
CUT SMALLER.....
(thickness of the leather
to cover it)... THAN
THE OUTLINE OF THE
TRACING PATTERN

ROUND THE
EDGES OF
PLUG



Embossing Plugs

by Al Stohlman

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