



## 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:

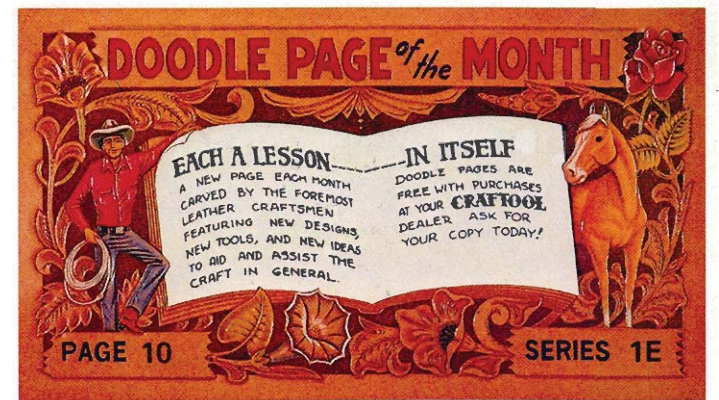
Front – full sized, front – tiled, back – full sized, back – tiled

(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.



# Make Your Own Leather Patch

by Kat Kuszak

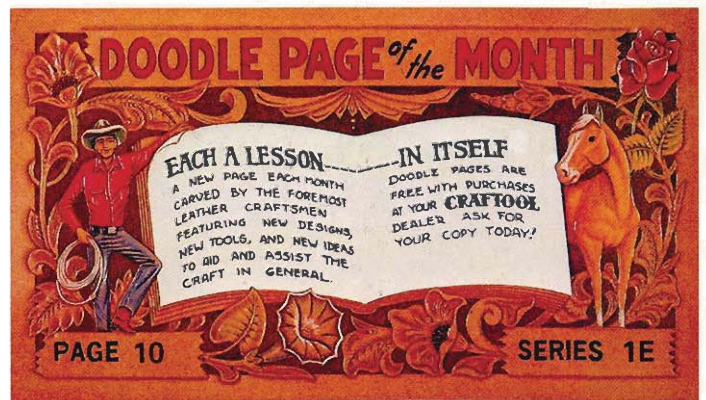
I've been doing leather work out of my home-based "Prairie Hawk Leather Studio" for over 15 years now. I've received many special orders for all types of custom-made items. One of the commissions I received in late spring of 1991, was from Switzerland for a custom made leather patch for a leather motorcycle jacket. I decided to share this very simple inexpensive leather patch idea with you, because we can all use "new" (to us) or different ideas. For many of us, our leather craft "hobby" has turned into a business over the years... special orders, repairs of all kinds, gift items, and craft show/art show sales, demands that we come up with inventive and creative ideas for something "new".

This patch can be used as mere ornamentation, as a "wall-hanging", or as a sewn on decoration for clothing, or as a sewn on cover-up for irreparable spots on leather utilitarian items and clothing. A custom-made patch can be used to personalize and repair much-loved but well-used and worn items. As an example, you could use such a patch to cover up an old name stamped on a belt, purse, wallet, or to cover a spot, or worn area. This idea could even be used as a sewn on applique, using exotic skins (such as python, hair-on calf, etc.) instead of a carving to dress up or up-date an existing piece of clothing or an accessory. Of course, the size and shape of the patch is limitless, as is the ornamentation, carving and decoration carved on it, or inlaid into it.

It is truly easy to do. If you plan on carving a design, use vegetable tanned cowhide, in a weight of leather appropriate to the project. A heavier 8-9 oz. weight of leather could be used for something that will not be bent or stretched. The edges of the patch made from thicker leather can also be skived thin to blend in with what it is to be sewn on. A thinner 3-4 oz. leather is a good weight for a decorative garment patch, but be careful that your swivel knife cuts don't go too deep... not all the way through but enough to break the leather when the patch was in use. A good lesson: learn from your mistakes.







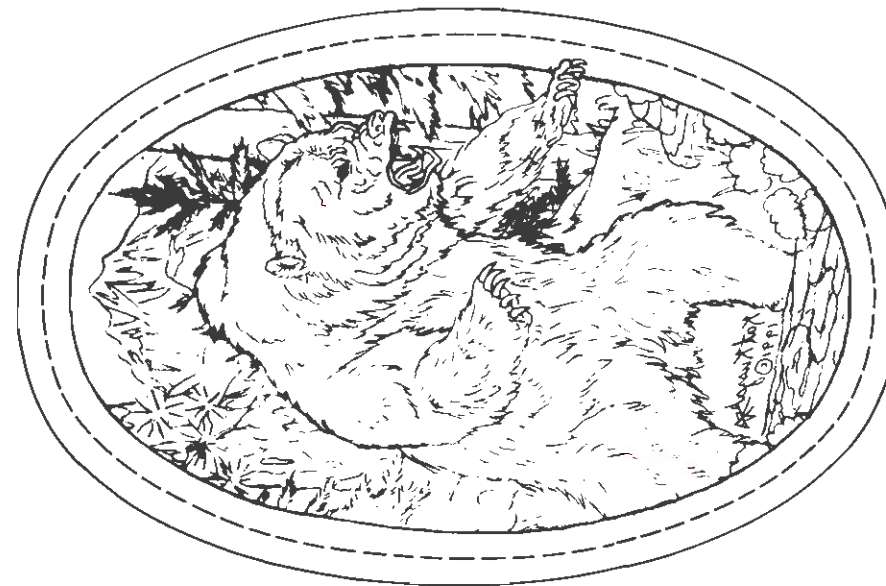
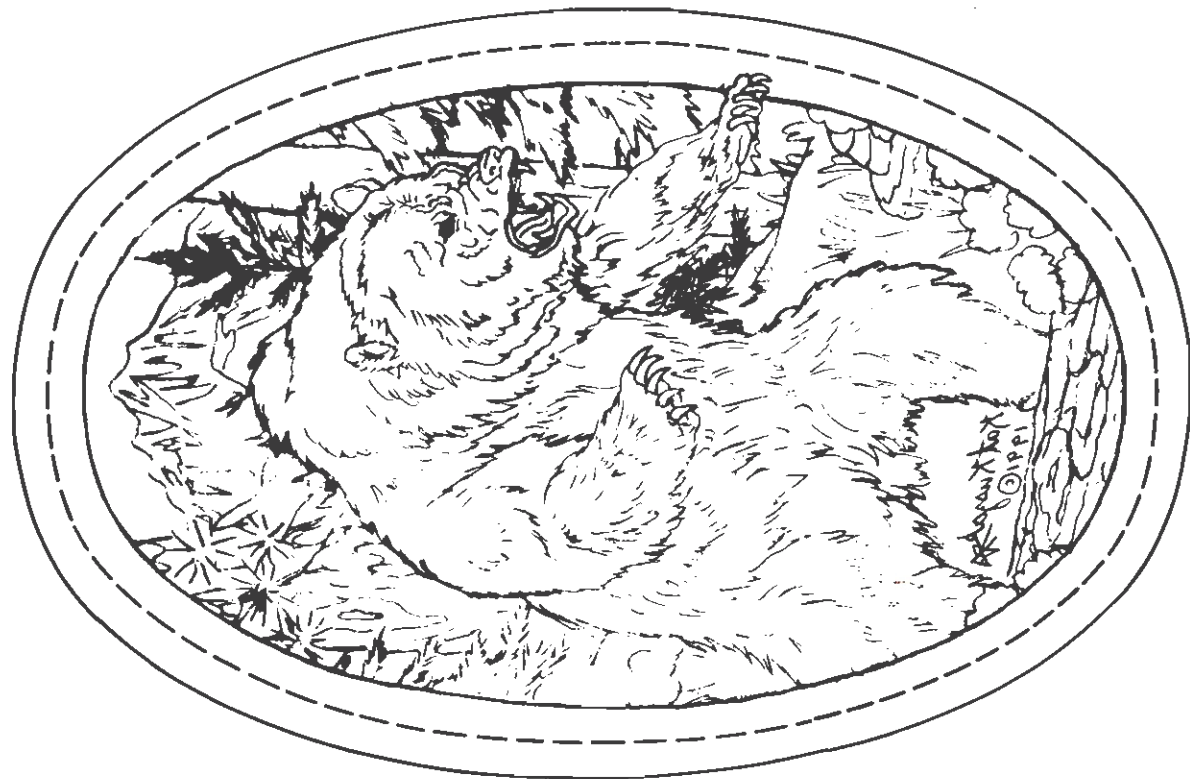
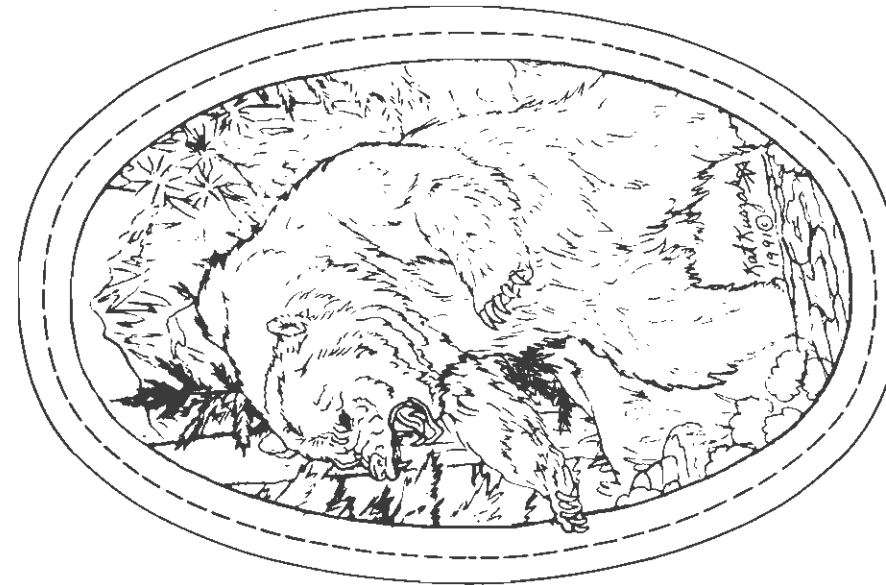
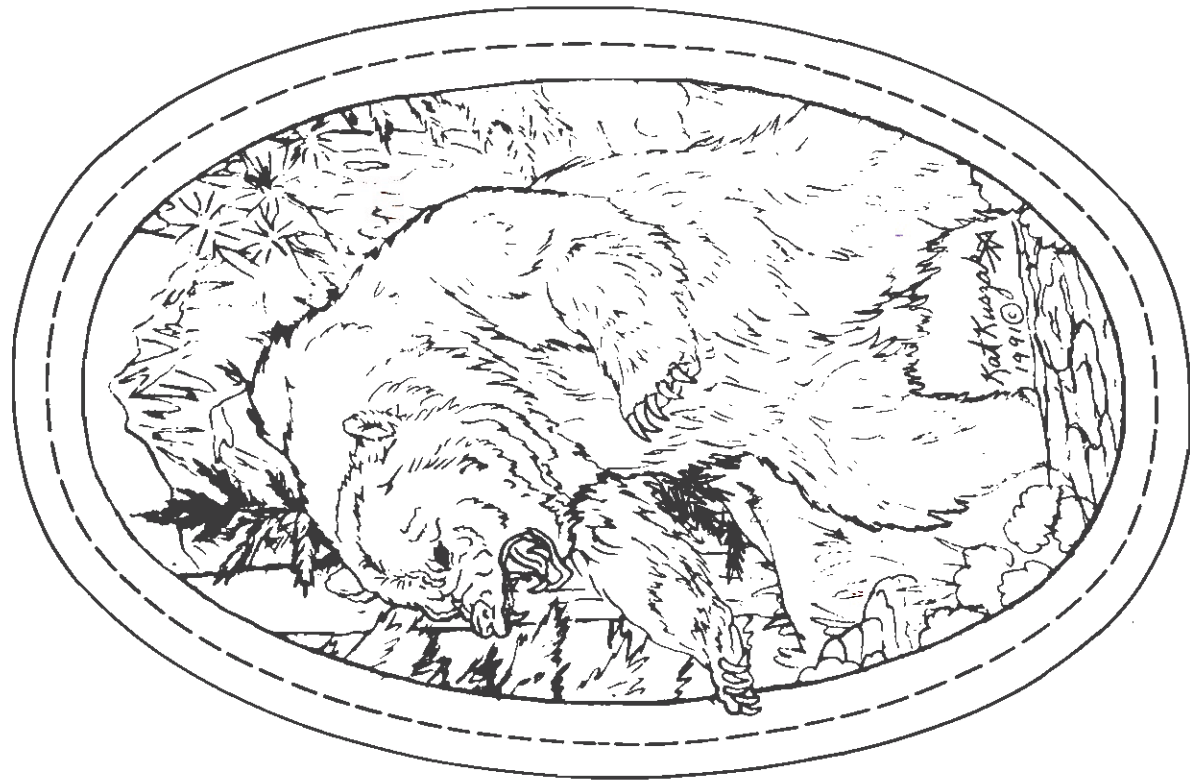
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Determine the shape and size patch you'll need. Back your patch with contact paper or tape to prevent leather stretch, then cut out the shape you'll be using. Before carving, use a Craftool adjustable stitching groover to cut a precise groove an even distance from the edge of the patch all the way around. A wing divider can be used to scribe a line inside the stitching groove, towards the center of the patch. This scribed line will be cut with your swivel knife and beveled to form a "frame" for the carving. The distance between the stitch groove and the scribed line could be equal, but doesn't have to be, as long as it is visually balanced. An overstitcher will be used to mark where your awl holes will go in the stitch groove you made. This ensures evenly spaced stitches for a more professional hand-sewn look.

The grizzly bear carving shown, is plain, with no antique, stain, dye, paint or color of any kind other than a clear protective finish of Super Shene. Before any sewing; cut, carve, tool and dye your carving, then apply a protective finish. When dry, you may begin the cementing and sewing process. For a finished look, be sure to use an edge beveler of the appropriate size for the weight leather your patch is made of. After beveling the edge of the patch all the way around, slick and finish the edges.

Be sure the patch placement is correct before you begin sewing. Use a stylus to trace the shape of your patch onto the surface of the item you are sewing it on. Apply rubber cement to this marked area, and onto the back of the patch. HINT: scuff up the surface to be cemented, as it will adhere better if you do this before the cement is applied. The use of rubber cement instead of contact cement will allow you to remove and reposition the patch if adjustments are needed to ensure proper placement. Allow a few minutes for the rubber cement to dry to a "tacky" feel before you press the two together.

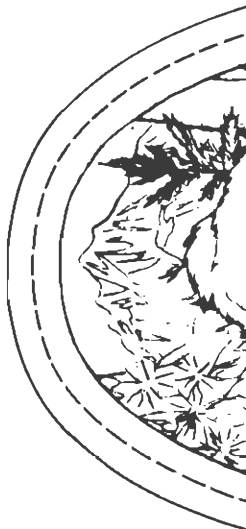
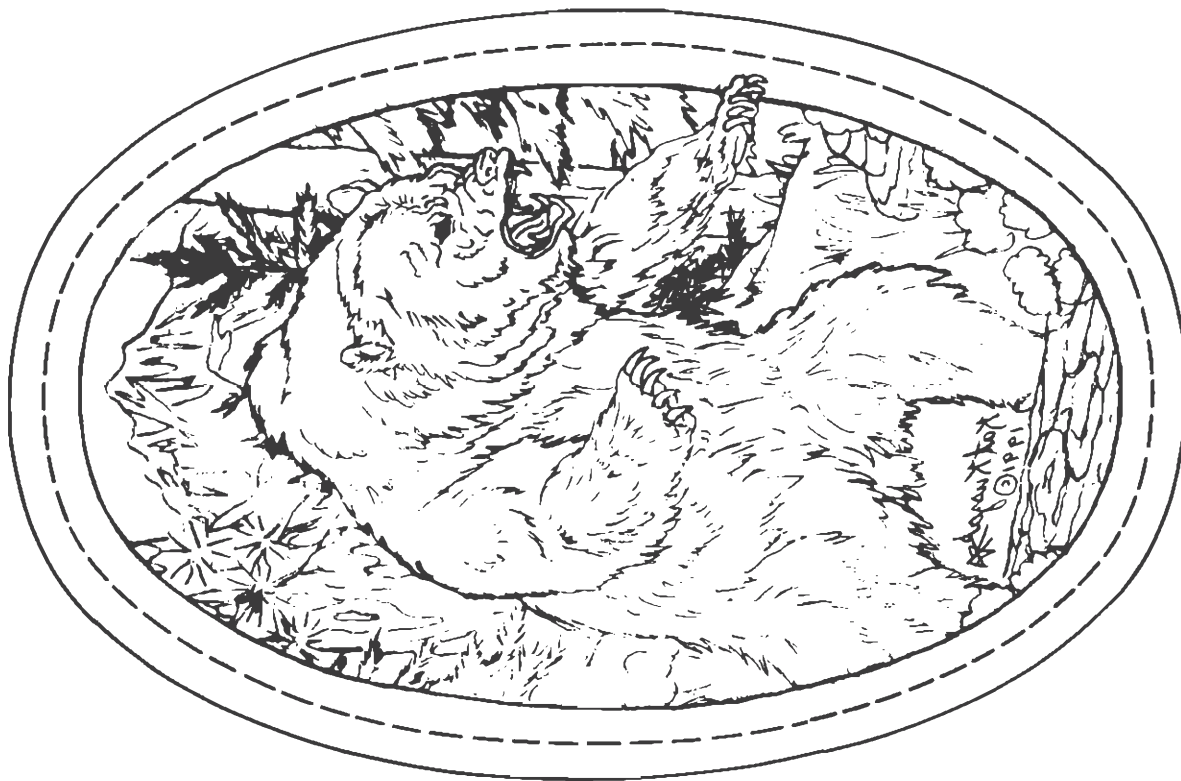
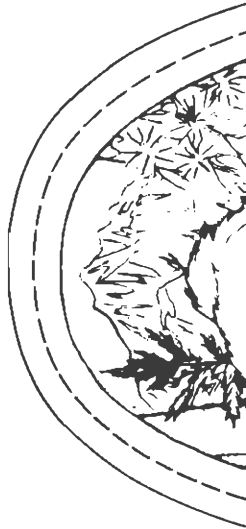
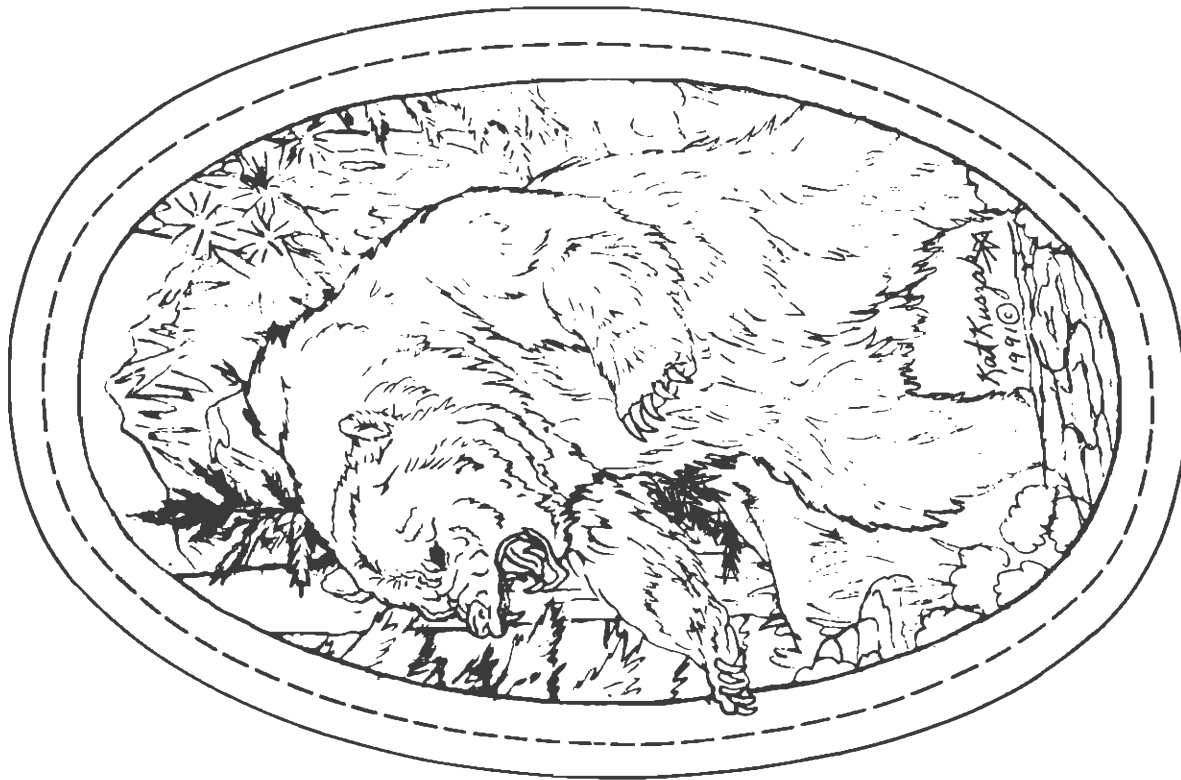
For excellent instructions on how to stitch and for the materials needed, refer to Al Stohlman's book "The Art of Hand Sewing Leather". You will use a diamond awl to make the stitching holes where your marks are in the stitching groove. The groove you made will recess the thread, sinew, or other sewing material you have used. The leather surface is above the stitches, protecting them from abrasion, wear, stress, etc.

Use your imagination with this patch idea. As a bonus, I have included two different sizes of the grizzly bear pattern and have reversed the patterns so it may be used on a variety of projects, where you might need two opposite, symmetrical drawings for patterns.

Leathercraft, as a hobby, often develops into a home run business as we begin selling our work to pay for materials to support our "leathercraft habit" (yes, leather work is addictive!). A lot of us begin by making gifts for relatives and friends, then selling our work to "friends of friends." As the demand for your leathercraft grows, you will want to develop more creative ways to deal with the special orders, gift items, and repairs you may be called upon to make. Have fun testing out this idea; there are many uses for this approach to leather decoration and repair. I hope you have a lot of fun and get a lot of enjoyment from experimenting with it. Carve your visions! ! !

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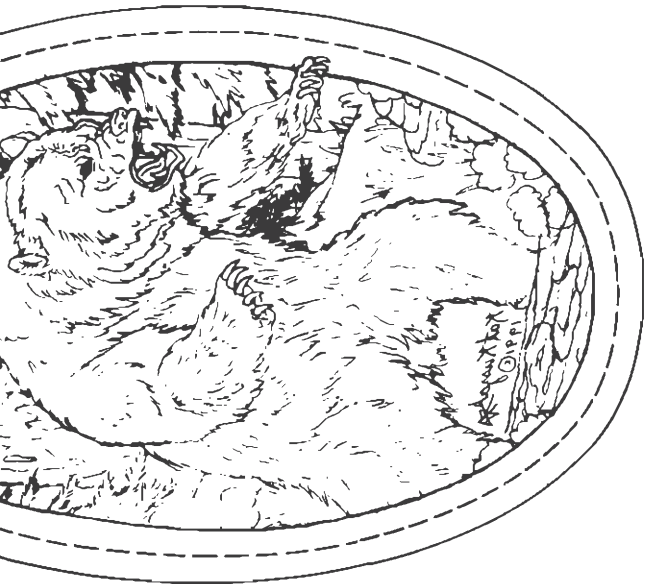
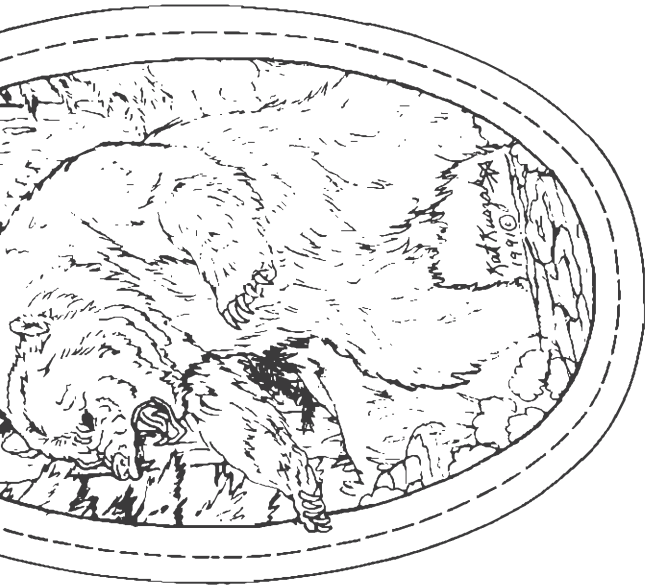
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