



## Digital Downloads

This PDF package has been put together to give you options when it comes to printing. Some PDF file downloads may contain some documents larger than an 8-1/2" x 11" image. Pages and patterns that are larger than 8½x11 have been provided in two formats:



**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.

**Tiled:** The tiled pages give you the option of printing the larger patterns at home. You print the tiled pages and then assemble them to make the larger patterns.



**Pattern PDF files** are typically laid out as follows: Cover (if applicable), instructions sheets (if applicable), pattern 1 – full sized, pattern 1 – tiled, pattern 2 – full sized, pattern 2 – tiled, pattern 3 – full sized, pattern 3 – tiled. ...Etc.

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**eBook PDF files** contain 1 (one) full eBook. All pages in the PDF are full sized. This means that you may have to take the PDF to a print shop for certain oversized books if your home printer cannot print the larger pages.

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**NOTE: Digital kit patterns do not include any kit parts that they may reference.**

Please note: When printing on a home printer, use the settings seen on the image to the right in the Page Handling area of the Adobe Reader print dialogue box. If your printer is cutting edges off, set "Page Scaling" to "Shrink to Printable Area". This will, however, decrease the size of the pattern a very small amount.



**NOTE: Some patterns may reference tools, and other items no longer available.**

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

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*Leathercraft Projects To-Go*

# New Frontier Leather HATBAND or BELT

*Plus A Look Back Into History Of  
The New Frontier "Gold Rush"*

**OBJECTIVE:** Students will learn to stamp and assemble leather turning it into a useful and decorative project. Lesson includes history and new vocabulary words. Creativity, math and dexterity skills will be exercised to design, personalize, color and assemble the project.

*ASSEMBLE THE  
LEATHER PROJECT  
EITHER AS A  
HATBAND OR A  
BELT WITH TIES*

## MATERIALS LIST

**All Supplies Needed To Complete  
12 Hatband or Belt Projects:**

- Pre-Punched Veg Tan Tooling Leather Bands
- All-In-One Stain / Finish
- Sheep Wool & Sponges
- Stamping Tools & Handles
- Mallets
- Cova Color® Acrylic Paints
- Brushes & Cords
- Sharpie Pens & Stencils
- Instructions & Handbook

## YOU WILL or MIGHT NEED:

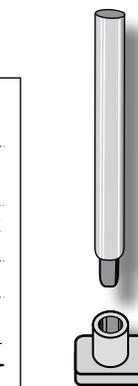
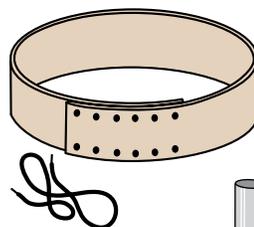
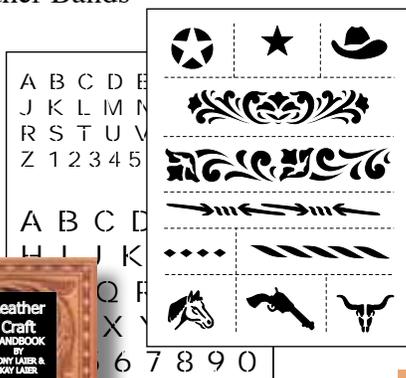
- Pencils & Scissors
- Plastic Water Bowls
- Classroom Markers, Acrylic Paints & Brushes
- Plastic Palettes, Plates Or Wax Paper For Paints

## CLASSROOM TIME:

**Minimum of 4 Sessions:**

**Size, Design, Case & Stamp = 90 minutes**

**Color & Assembly = 90 minutes**



## GETTING STARTED:

### SESSION 1 - Sizing & Design:

- Size the bands first. Place band around hat or head. Mark where the closest holes overlap, then with the holes still overlapped, fold the band in half to find the center of the front. This will help when planning designs. For belts, there should be no overlap. Trim both ends evenly so the ends just meet.
- Copy blank templates on page 5, cut apart on dotted lines & hand out for planning designs. Cut stencils apart on dotted lines and hand out along with pencils.

### SESSION 2 - Case & Stamp:

- To prepare for casing & stamping, set-up sturdy tables for 3 or 4 students per table with one plastic bowl of water & two sponges per table. Have paper towels and a plastic trash bag handy for spills.
- Hand out to each student: Copy of page 6 instructions, one project part & one mallet.
- Share stamps and stamp handles.
- Follow the Leather Preparation and Stamping Instructions on the next pages.

### SESSIONS 3 & 4 - Color & Assemble:

- Set up 1 or 2 staining tables for All-In-One Stain & Finish to be applied with sheep wool pieces. Cover tables with paper to protect them from spills.
- Add additional color with Sharpie Pens and Cova Colors. Use plastic palettes, plates or wax paper for mixing paints.
- Copy and hand out assembly instructions on pages 7 & 8 along with the cords.
- Practice, then demonstrate assembly steps.

*The Leather Craft Handbook ~  
A handy reference offering you more  
information on the various  
tools that are available and  
how to use them on these and  
future projects.*



## HISTORY:

### “The Gold Rush”

January 24, 1848 was probably a day just like any other day in late January in California, but it was also the day that James Marshall discovered gold in the area known as Sutter’s Mill. With that single discovery, the history of the United States would be changed. Over the next few years, approximately 300,000 people would rush to California with big dreams of coming home rich. Some would, many would not, and even more would stay in California, resulting in California becoming a state in 1850.

Most arrived in 1849, becoming known as “Forty-niners”. Life for these newcomers to the west coast was not easy. California was not yet a state. A system of government and law were not established, leading to much wild west crime. The initial gold-rush brought people mostly from within territorial California; by 1849, word had spread. People were rushing to the area from all over the world. A person could work for months and make years’ worth of wages from a normal labor job. This attracted people from as far away as China, South America, and Europe. The settlement known as San Francisco boomed seemingly overnight into a burgeoning city. Schools, churches, and roads would be needed for the new population.

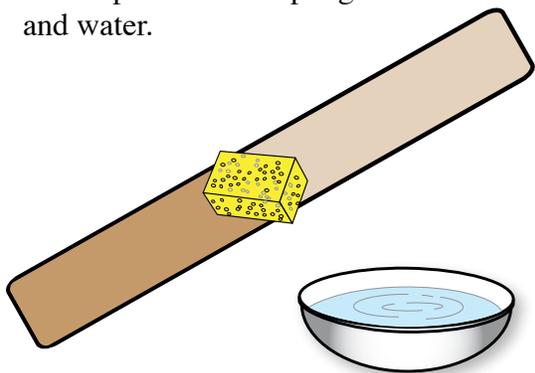
People could strike it rich in the first year or two with just a pan and patience. Gold-panning was the most popular way of removing gold from silt or river beds, a process that involved using water and currents to wash away the light dirt and leave behind the heavy gold flakes. Just a few years passed before California had been mostly panned out. By the mid-1850s, the gold took more advanced and organized mining efforts to access. California was the 31st state in the United States of America by then and a giant figure in the imaginations of the American people and the people of the world. It has never lost this status.

Continued ...

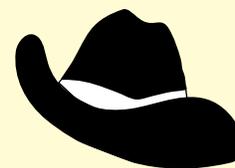
## LEATHER PREPARATION:

Before you can stamp a design on leather, it needs to be moistened. This is called “casing the leather”. (Note: Sponges can be cut in half.) Students should share sponges and water bowls per table.

- 1) Apply water to the smooth (grain) side of your leather using a clean sponge and water. Dampen leather but not too much.
- 2) Set leather aside and wait until it begins to return to its natural color and feels cool to the touch. Then it is ready to stamp. While waiting for your leather to partially dry, plan the designs.
- 3) If some areas begin to dry too fast, lightly re-dampen with the sponge and water.



## HISTORY Continued:



**Did You Know:** From the moment Christopher Columbus, as a representative of Spain, made contact with native South Americans in the early 1500s, gold was influential in the colonization of the Americas, North and South.

In 1849 some 85,000 fortune-seekers fell on California for a share of the “color”. The gold rushers came in scaled-down versions of the Conestoga wagons that had been used for freighting since the early 18th century. More commonly, they journeyed in covered “emigrant wagons,” and sturdy farm vehicles pulled by oxen or mules (horses were unable to endure the long haul), each loaded with thousands of pounds of food, goods and tools.

They endured the travel, the terrain, the dangers of lawlessness, lack of food and working in icy snow melt water to pan for the glint of gold.

The project for this lesson is to make a New Frontier hatband or belt out of real leather using historic stitching techniques.

## VOCABULARY:

**Casing** - Adding water to one or both sides of vegetable tanned tooling leather to prepare the surface for tooling.

**Flesh Side** - The rough (suede) underside of leather.

**Grain Side** - The hair side of the leather with the hair removed.

**Tanning** - The process using tannins to change a fresh animal hide into leather.

**Tannins** - Yellowish substance from oak bark and other plants used to tan leather.

**Staining** - Adding color to the leather using different types of stains and paints.

**Stamping** - Using metal stamps with designs or shapes on the end and a mallet to put a design on the grain side of vegetable tanned leather.

**Vegetable Tanned (Veg-Tan)** - Leather which has been tanned with vegetable materials that are derived from certain plants and woods, often called bark tannins.

## CREATE DESIGNS USING DIFFERENT STENCIL PATTERNS & STAMPS

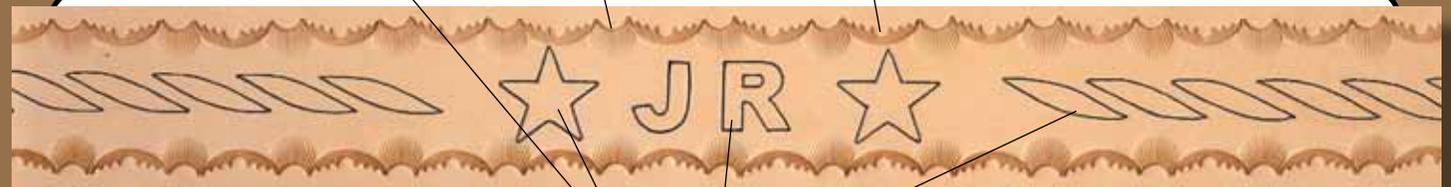
Here are some ideas combining stencil patterns, stamps and alphabet stamps. The same samples are shown on page 1 with color applied. Different coloring techniques can be used: Leave backgrounds natural leather and add color using Cova Colors & Sharpie Pens or apply All-In-One Color Stain & Finish over the entire project. Then go back and add additional color.



NOT SHOWN HERE



NOT SHOWN HERE



STENCIL DESIGNS

### COLORING HINTS:

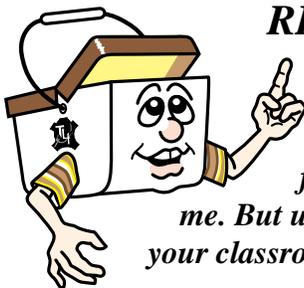
**WHEN USING ACRYLIC PAINTS** over All-In-One, make light colors stand out on the dark background by first painting the inside of the design with white acrylic paint. Let it dry completely (few minutes), then paint over the white with the desired color.

**MIXING COLORS:** The primary colors (red, yellow & blue) can be mixed to create the secondary colors (orange, green & purple). Add white to lighten and black to darken a color.



### CLASSROOM EXPANSION IDEAS:

- ~ Study other states' histories as related to the American settlement of the West.
- ~ Explore the role of gold in the settling of the New World by Europeans. Contrast it with the American settlement of the West.



### RECYCLE ME!

*"I am your Theme Bucket - be sure to recycle me! I would like to end up in your closet with many of my friends. I could store art supplies, extra leather project parts, or even help you organize your files. Create a new label for me so I can help you find what is stored in me. But until it's time to recycle, I am happy to bring fun & learning into your classroom by offering you Projects To-Go from Tandy Leather Factory."*



# TEMPLATES FOR PLANNING DESIGNS

*Copy, cut apart on dotted lines and hand out.*



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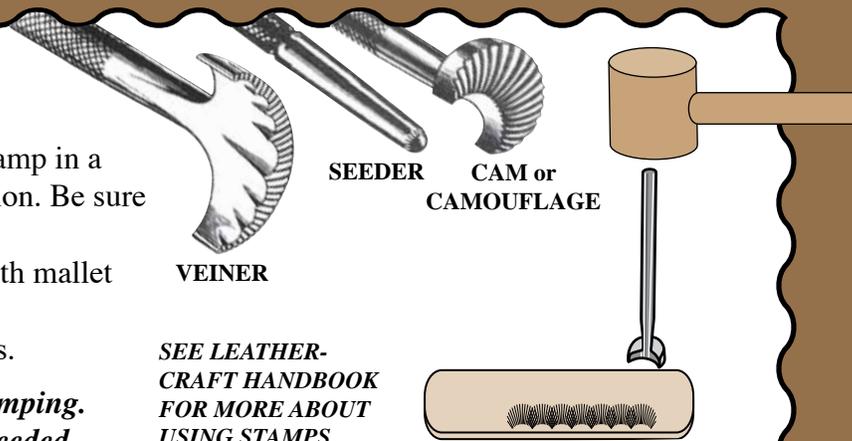
## STAMPING Instructions:

(Shown here on a leather strip.)

- 1) After leather has been cased, hold stamp in a vertical (straight up and down) position. Be sure stamp is facing the desired direction.
- 2) Strike handle end of stamp firmly with mallet to leave a deep impression.
- 3) Repeat with same or different stamps.

**Be sure to keep leather damp while stamping.**  
**Reapply water lightly with sponge as needed.**

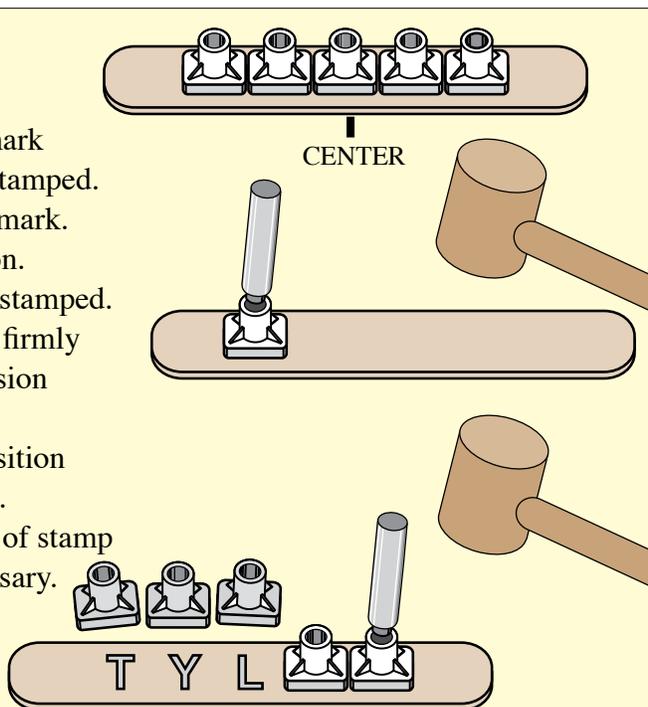
SEE LEATHER-CRAFT HANDBOOK FOR MORE ABOUT USING STAMPS



## STAMPING Alphabets:

(Shown here on a leather strip.)

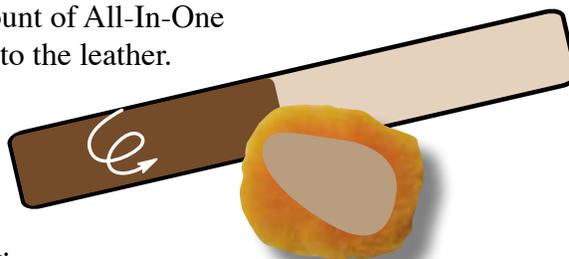
- 1) To stamp two or more letters in a row, first mark the center of the space where letters will be stamped.
- 2) Place stamps side by side, centered over the mark. Be sure stamps are facing the correct direction.
- 3) Remove all stamps except the first one to be stamped.
- 4) Insert stamp setter in top of stamp and strike firmly with mallet. Repeat if necessary until impression shows clearly in the leather.
- 5) Place 1st stamp back over its impression. Position 2nd stamp next to the first for proper spacing.
- 6) Remove 1st stamp. Insert stamp setter in top of stamp and strike firmly with mallet. Repeat if necessary.
- 7) Repeat with rest of letters.
- 8) Allow project to dry completely before applying All-In-One Stain & Finish.



## STAINING THE LEATHER:

**You will be using All-In-One Stain & Finish which is a color and finish combined for speed. Be sure to work quickly and in a special staining area away from other supplies.**

- 1) Shake bottle well. Transfer a liberal (heavy) amount of All-In-One onto a piece of sheep wool, but never directly onto the leather.  
NOTE: Only one coat is needed.
- 2) Then apply to leather quickly, rubbing in a circular motion until color is even and all cuts and impressions are full of stain.
- 3) Remove excess with a clean piece of sheep wool. Then, buff to a mellow gloss with a clean piece of sheep wool.



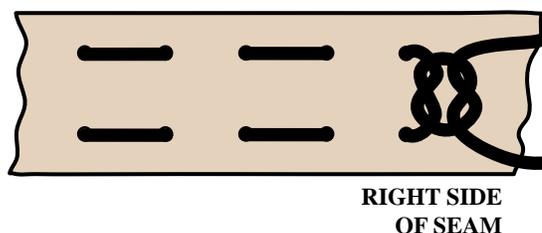
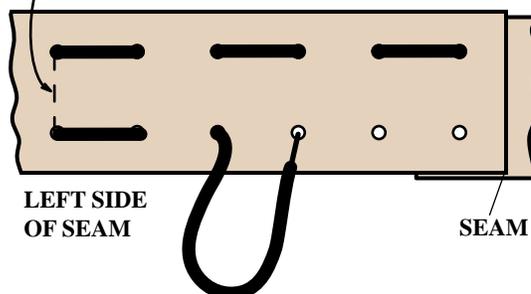
**OPTION: After stain is dry, come back and add more color using colored markers or acrylic paints.**

## ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS:

### TO DO THE RUNNING STITCH:

- 1) From the backside of the band, stitch out the top far left hole.
- 2) With the other end of the cord, stitch out the bottom far left hole. Pull cord until its center is between the top and bottom far left holes.
- 3) With the top cord, stitch in and out through the next holes. When you come to the overlap (seam), stitch through appropriate aligned holes and continue stitching to the last hole.
- 4) With the bottom cord, stitch in and out through next holes. Continue to last hole.
- 5) At the last holes, cord ends will either be on the top or backside of band. Tie ends in a knot. Trim off excess cord.

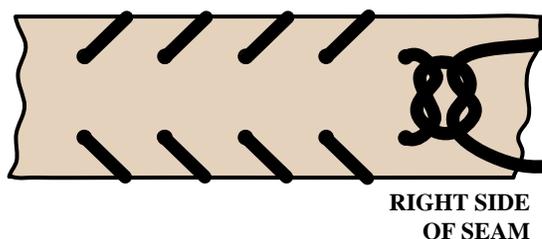
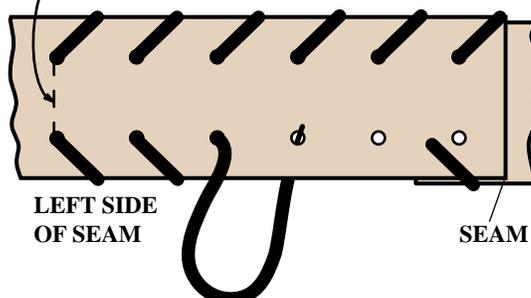
START HERE: PULL CORD UNTIL CORD CENTER IS BETWEEN THESE FAR LEFT TWO HOLES.



### TO DO THE WHIP STITCH:

- 1) From the backside of the band, stitch out the top far left hole.
- 2) With the other end of the cord, stitch out the bottom far left hole. Pull cord until its center is between the top and bottom far left holes.
- 3) With the top cord, stitch over the edge and through the next hole. When you come to the overlap (seam), stitch through appropriate aligned holes and continue stitching to the last hole.
- 4) With the bottom cord, stitch over edge and through next hole. Continue to last hole.
- 5) At the last holes, cord ends will either be on the top or backside of band. Tie ends in a knot. Trim off excess cord.

START HERE: PULL CORD UNTIL CORD CENTER IS BETWEEN THESE FAR LEFT TWO HOLES.



**TO DO A CROSS (X) STITCH ~  
See Next Page**

### STITCHING HINT:

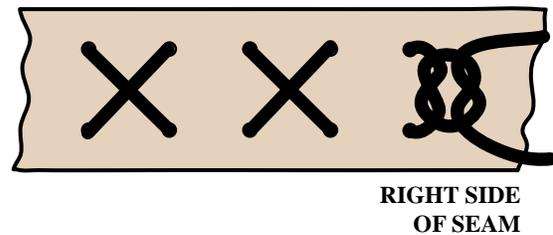
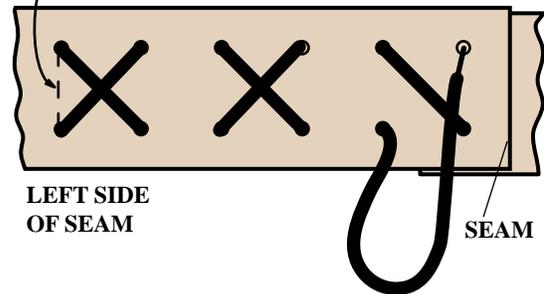
Always keep cord flat when stitching. Avoid twisting.

## ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS Continued

### TO DO A CROSS (X) STITCH:

- 1) From the backside of the band, stitch out the top far left hole. Pull cord until its center is at the hole.
- 2) With the other end of the cord, stitch out the bottom far left hole. Pull cord until its center is between the top and bottom far left holes.
- 3) With the top cord, stitch diagonally down through the second hole on the bottom row. Then stitch diagonally up & out the third hole on the top row. Continue stitching. When you come to the overlap (seam), stitch through appropriate aligned holes and then continue stitching to the last hole.
- 4) With the bottom cord, stitch diagonally up through the second hole on the top row. Then stitch diagonally down & out the third hole on the bottom row. Continue stitching diagonally to the last hole.
- 5) At the last holes, cord ends will either be on the top or backside of band. Tie ends in a knot. Trim cord.

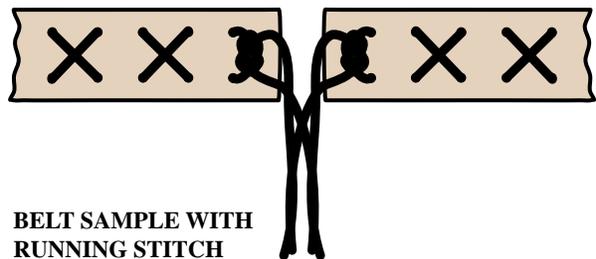
START HERE: PULL CORD UNTIL CORD CENTER IS BETWEEN THESE FAR LEFT TWO HOLES.



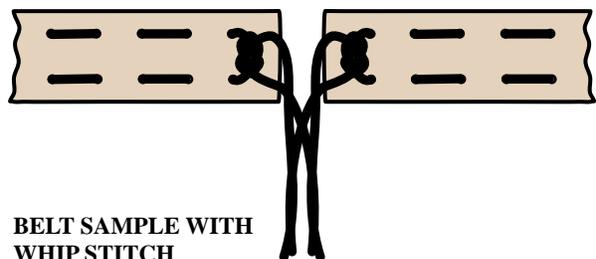
### TO MAKE A BELT:

- 1) To size the belt: Wrap the band around waist. It is not necessary that the ends of the band touch. If they overlap, they must be trimmed back until the ends just meet. Be sure to trim both ends evenly. NOTE: Don't allow a hole to be right on the edge. Trim off the hole.
- 2) Use two cords, one for each end of the band.
- 3) Select one of the 3 stitching designs (shown on page 6 or above).
- 4) Follow the stitching instructions starting on the left side of the band. Stitch to the band end and stop.
- 5) Do not cut the cords. Instead, tie cord ends together in a knot and let the cord ends dangle.
- 6) Repeat the same stitching instructions on the other end of the band, starting at the far right holes, stitching to the end of the band.
- 7) At the end, tie cord ends together in a knot.
- 8) Wrap belt around waist and tie dangling cord ends in a bow or a loose knot.

BELT SAMPLE WITH CROSS-STITCH



BELT SAMPLE WITH RUNNING STITCH



BELT SAMPLE WITH WHIP STITCH

