



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.

INSTALL THIS PART
OF SNAP BEFORE
GLUEING DOWN
AND STITCHING
LINING

BE SURE TO PUNCH
LARGE HOLE BEFORE
GLUEING AND STITCHING
IN LINING

V821

P215

A104

U851

C940

A104

S631

P973

ALL BEVELING
DONE WITH
A B198

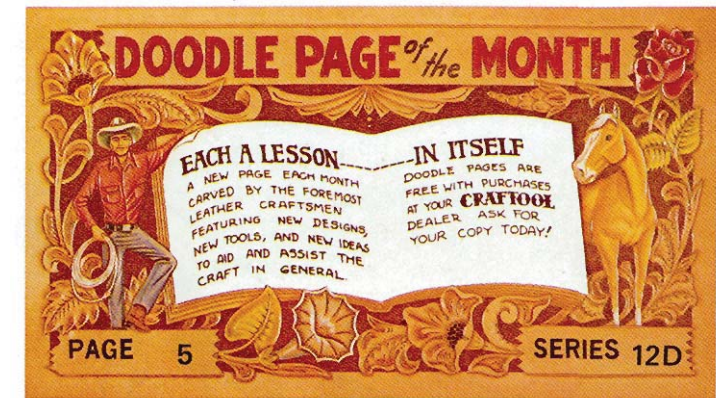
C940

D435

NOTE:
BE SURE TO SEW
LINING TO MAIN
HOLSTER BODY
BEFORE ATTACHING
STIFFNER TO THUMB
TAB.

X511
(OPTIONAL)

ANY DESIGN BEYOND
THIS LINE WILL NOT
BE VISIBLE!



A SIMPLE THUMB-BREAK

BY
BILL MCKAY

In my travels around the Western United States, I have run across any number of beautiful western styled holsters, and in fact have made quite a few myself. There always seems to be someone out there that just bought a priceless old .45 cal. single action Colt, and they want a fitting belt and holster rig in which to display it. I have, however, experienced a greater demand for nicely hand tooled, modern styled, holsters for people to use with their regular working handguns. The holster design you see here is for medium framed revolvers, with 4" barrels, such as the Colt Trooper, Smith and Wessons and Dan Wessons. These are some of the most common revolvers around, and are used a great deal by police officers and private citizens all around the country. With a bit of modification, this same design can be used to carry any number of semi-automatic pistols, although with this design, these guns should be carried with the hammer down or in the double-action mode.

The nice thing about this design is its simplicity. The holster is all one piece and very easy to make. You can tool any design you like on it from a basic basket stamp to a full floral design, or it can even be left plain. I have found that the combination of floral and basketweave, as shown, gives a very attractive, yet business-like air to this holster.

There are a couple tricks that you'll want to pay attention to while making your holster. First... this holster is designed to be lined*. For me, the Voguesuede works very well, but you can also use pigskin suede. Both are tough and durable, and easy to find at your local Tandy Leather store. For the main holster body I use 7 oz. Live Oak tooling leather which, when lined, is a perfect weight for making a strong, long lasting holster that will give you years of service.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Prolonged storage of a pistol in chrome tanned (suede) leather (leather tanned with chromium salts) can cause damage to the pistols finish.

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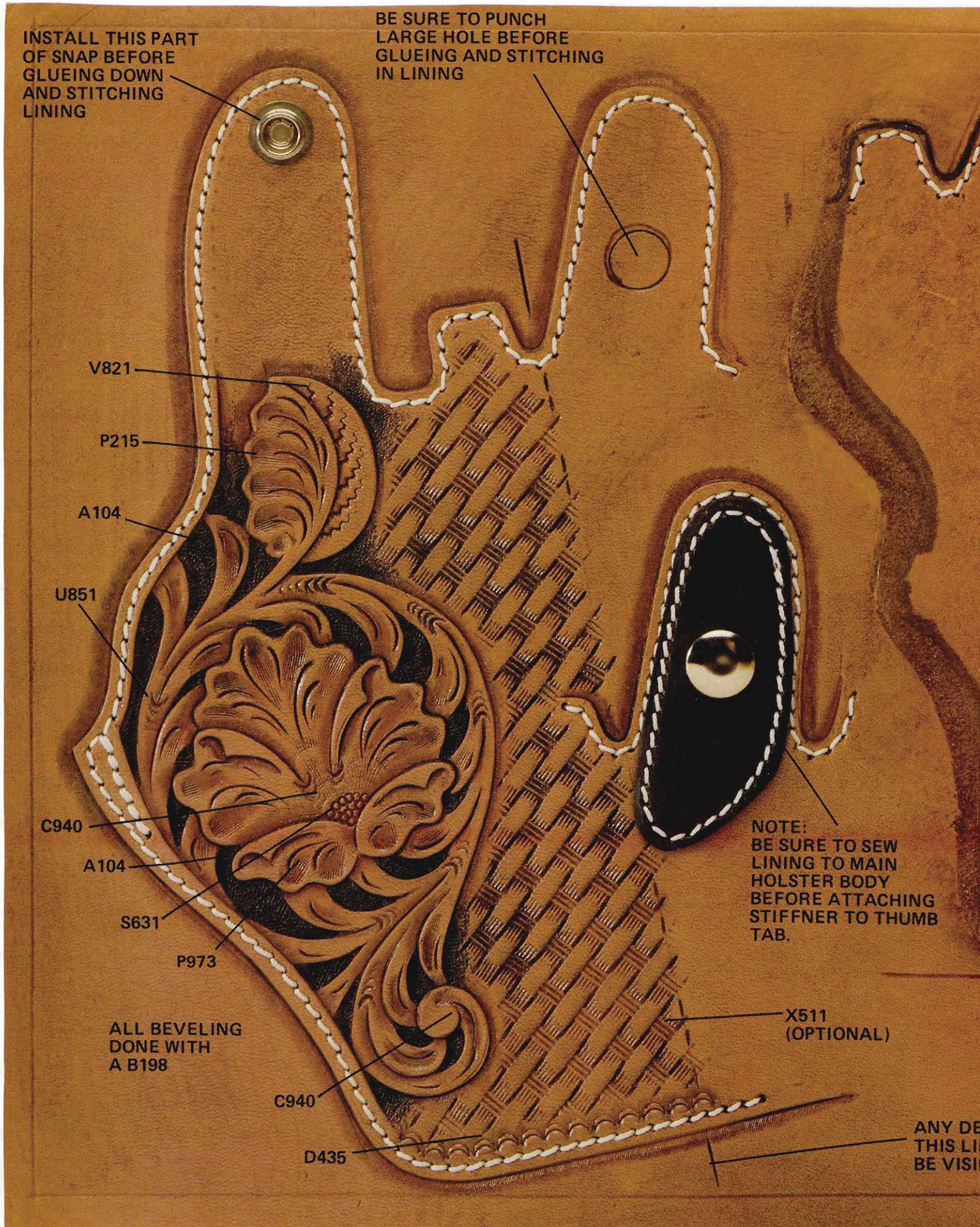
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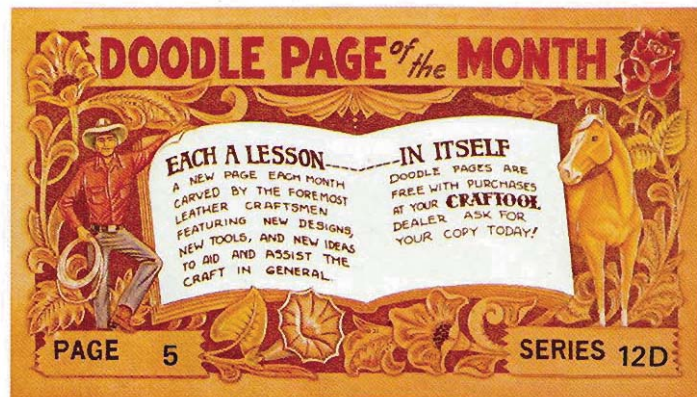
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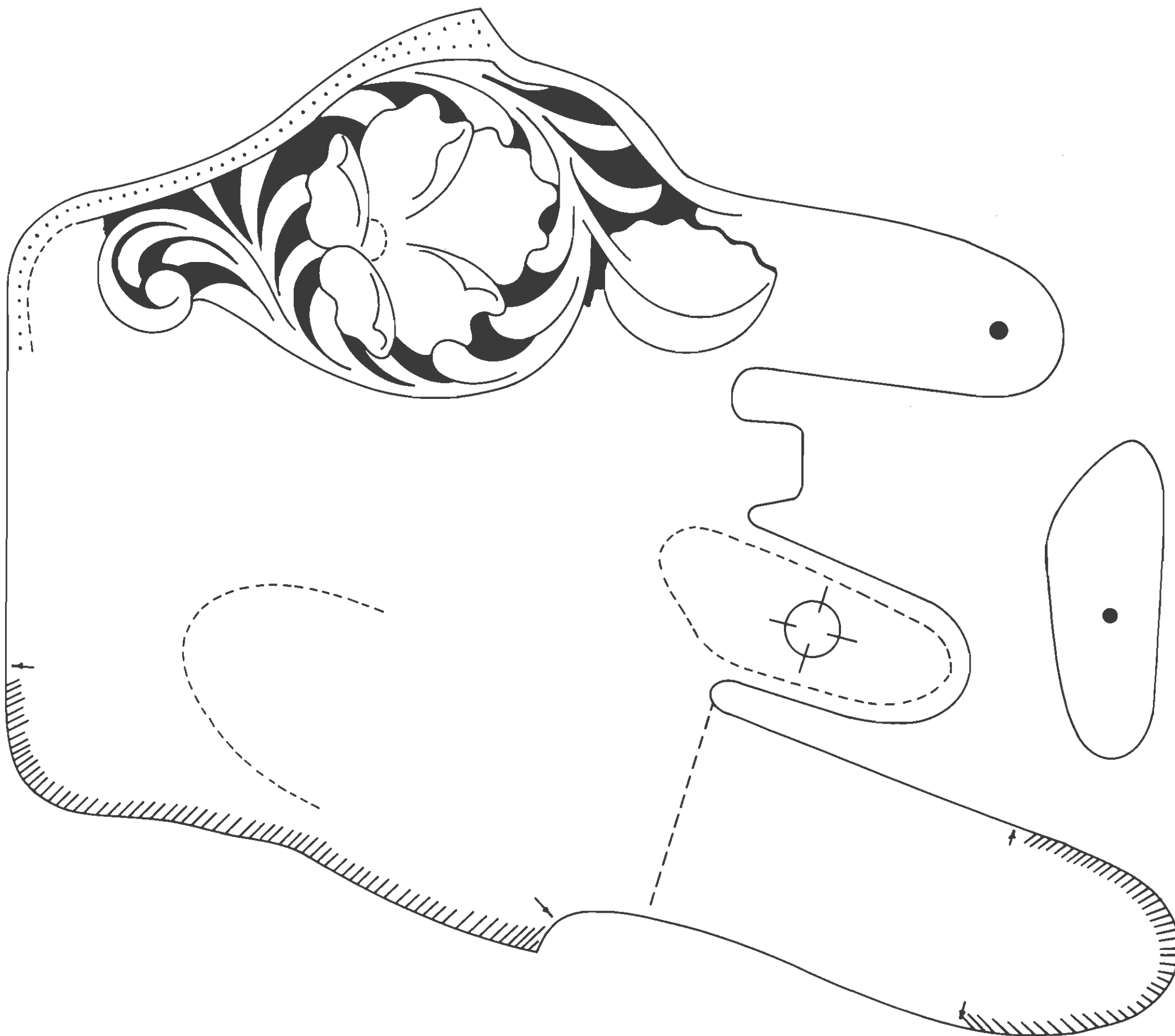
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Once you have your holster cut out, tooled and dyed, cut a 1/2" hole through the back thumb tab. At the same time, attach the male half of the Durable Dot snap to the safety flap. This should be done before you glue down the lining. DO NOT cut away the lining from the 1/2" hole on the thumb tab. I'll explain why in just a minute. Be sure the lining material is bonded to the entire surface, and not just the edge. If you are going to sew in the lining, be sure NOT to sew it in the shaded areas of the pattern where the belt flap and holster edges are to be joined.

Next... cut the thumb tab stiffener from a piece of 9-10 oz. leather. Finish the edge, dye the piece and cement it to the thumb tab. Once the stiffener is in place, stitch it to the holster. NOW turn the holster over and press the lining into the hole on the thumb tab. Punch a hole for the snap through the stiffener piece. When you set the female snap on the thumb tab, you will notice that it fits down into the large hole, making it much less likely to damage the finish on your gun. I had the finish on my brand new Dan Wesson ruined by a poorly fitted snap on a cheap holster. It was all the dealer had, at the time, to fit the gun, and it really woke me up as to just how important quality holster construction is. In fact that very incident is what got me started in leather craft!

Now fold the belt flap over and stitch it in position to the back of the holster. Be sure to finish all the edges before you complete the final steps. It's lot easier and there's less chance of a B00-B00.

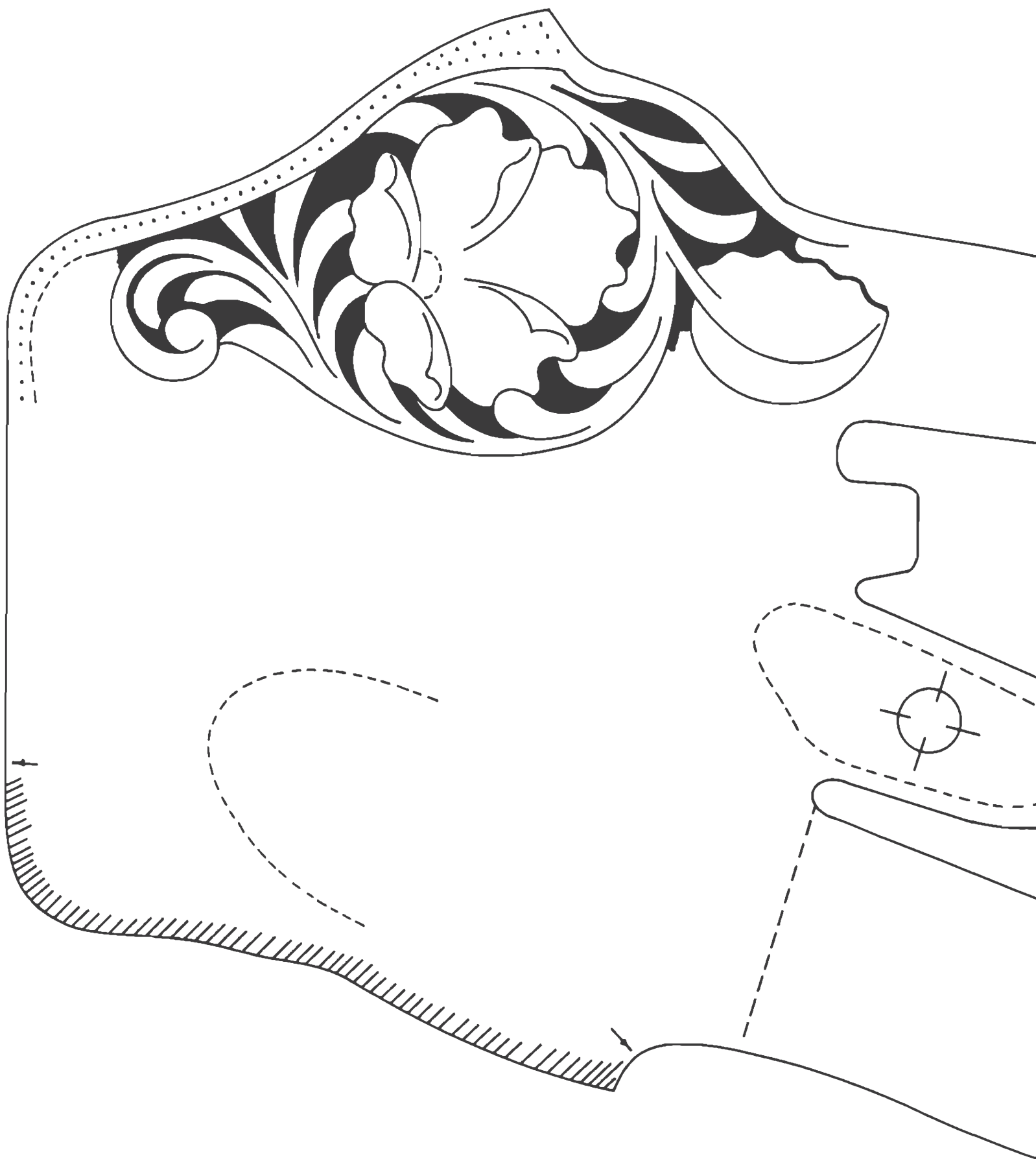
Now all you need to do is join and finish the edges of this little puppy, and you're all finished. Of course, if your friends find out that you make these masterpieces, you may find yourself up to your ears in work. Have fun, and remember to always use great care in handling your firearms. Gun safety is no accident!

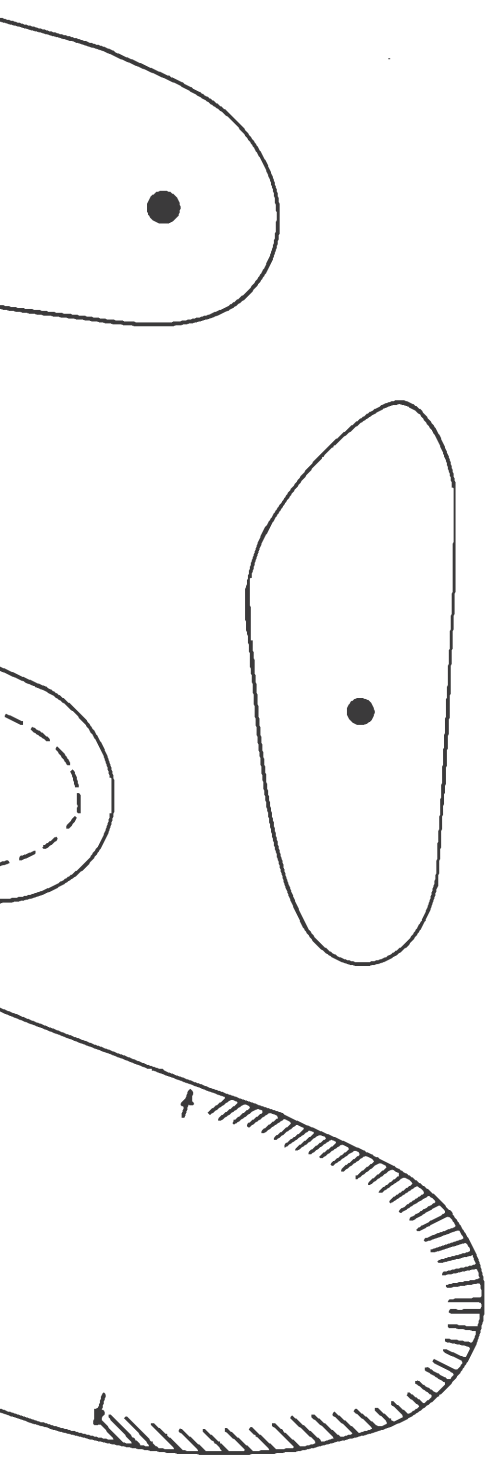
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bill McKay is a native of Phoenix, Az. and has been doing leatherwork since 1981. With sixteen years of Graphic Artwork behind him, he is now doing custom leatherwork on a full time basis. Some of his other hobbies include model building, gunsmithing and building racing motorcycles.



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