

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 8%x11 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.



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

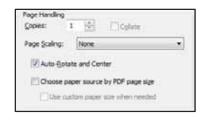
<u>Doodle Page PDF files</u> are typically laid out as follows: Front – full sized, front – tiled, back – full sized, back – tiled (Some Doodle Pages do not have backs).

<u>eBook PDF files</u> 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.

<u>Craftaid PDF files</u> contain 1 (one) full Craftaid pattern or Craftaid pattern pack that has been converted into a tracing pattern. 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 Craftaid patterns if your home printer cannot print the larger pages. *NOTE: These digitized patterns do not include any of the physical plastic templates (Craftaids) that may be mentioned, nor does the purchase of this PDF file imply a promise to receive any physical plastic templates (Craftaids).*

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 <u>S</u>caling" 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.

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www.leathercraftlibrary.com



Spring Theme Leather

LINK BELT

Plus A Look At "Why We Celebrate Spring"

OBJECTIVE: Students will learn about the theme while creating a useful and decorative leather project. Lesson includes history, science and new vocabulary words. Creativity, math and dexterity skills will be exercised to design, personalize, color and then assemble the project.

MATERIALS LIST

All Supplies Needed To Complete 12 Leather Link Belt Projects:

- Pre-Cut Veg-Split Suede Leather Belt Parts
- Metal Rings
- Cova Color® Acrylic Paints
- Brushes
- Sharpie Markers
- Stencils
- Design & Coloring Ideas
- Complete Instructions

YOU WILL or **MIGHT NEED:**

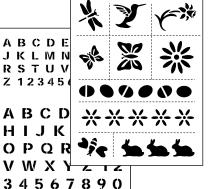
- Pencils For Planning Designs
- Additional Classroom Acrylic Paints & Brushes
- Plastic Palettes, Plates Or Wax Paper For Paints

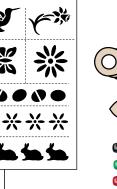
CLASSROOM TIME:

Minimum of 3 Sessions:

Sizing & Design = 45 minutes **Color the Projects = 45 minutes**

Assemble the Projects = 45 minutes









Page 1 of 6

GETTING STARTED:

SESSION 1 - Sizing & Design:

- Size the belt first. Have a sample for belt and wrist/ankle bands pre-assembled so students can determine how many links they will need to decorate.
- Copy the blank templates on page 5, cut apart on dotted lines and hand out along with pencils for planning designs.
- Cut stencils apart on dotted lines and handout for planning designs.

SESSION 2 - Color:

- Hand out leather parts to students.
- Share Sharpie Markers, paints & brushes.
 Use plastic palettes, plates or wax paper for mixing paints.

(SEE PAGE 3 FOR SESSION 3)

MIXING COVA COLOR® ACRYLIC PAINTS

The primary colors (red, yellow & blue) have been supplied in this Theme Bucket. The secondary colors (orange, green & purple) can be created as shown:

Add more or less red or yellow to change the hue of the orange.

Add more or less blue or yellow to change the hue of the green.

Add more or less blue or red to change the hue of the purple.

Now try mixing the secondary colors together to get even more colors.

Why Do We Celebrate Spring?

Spring is the time of year for new growth, rebirth, new life. It usually falls between March and June of each year. It is looked forward to and celebrated because people are happy that winter is over at last.

Many ancient people believed that the sun was a god and that winter came every year because the sun god had become sick and weak. They celebrated the solstice (December 21 or 22) because it meant that at last the sun god would begin to get well. Families would decorate their homes with evergreen boughs during the winter to remind them of all the green plants that would grow again when the sun god was strong and summer would return. Then when signs of growth appeared, this meant Spring had arrived and they celebrated.

The ancient Egyptians worshipped a god called RA, who had the head of a hawk and wore the sun as a blazing disk in his crown. At the solstice, when RA began to recover from the illness (of winter), the Egyptians filled their homes with green palm rushes which symbolized the triumph of life over death (or Spring).

Early Romans marked the solstice with a feast called the Saturnalia in honor of Saturn, the god of agriculture. To mark the occasion, they decorated their homes and temples with evergreen boughs in anticipation for Spring.

Today, many people celebrate Spring as a time for vacation and relaxing after a hard winter. Some of the different ways of celebration include decorating with Bunnies and colorful eggs; some celebrate religiously while other find it a wonderful time to do Spring cleaning. These are symbols of rebirth and new life. Other symbols include Spring flowers, birds, butterflies and the feisty little bee who buzzes around from flower to flower collecting and depositing pollen, fertilizing the plants so they will grow better.

Continued . . .



NOTE: When using acrylic paints on leather, be sure the project is completely dry before starting to assemble the project.

GETTING STARTED continued:

SESSION 3 - Assembly:

- Copy the Instructions on page 6 and hand them out to each student along with the metal rings.
- Practice before class and then demonstrate the steps.

ABOUT THE LEATHER:

The leather used for this project is called veg-split leather, cut from cowhide. Both sides are rough or suede. The grain side (smooth top side) of this particular cut of leather has been removed.

The project for this lesson will be decorated using acrylic paints and colored markers.

History Continued:

Spring is also a time for looking ahead to summer, making plans for warmer days and fun activities. It's a time to plant a garden or plan outdoor activities.

Do You Know: In Europe, May Day was and still is celebrated. Maypoles or May Trees are put outside. Colorful streamers are attached at the top. Children sing and dance around the pole, in opposite directions, wrapping the pole in a colorful braid. This tradition is more common in Great Britain than in the United States. In France, it is called "The Tree of Liberty".

Do You Know: Spring is not celebrated at the same time everywhere in the world. Times and climates are different in other countries. The seasonal celebrations are often reversed. Some people (Australians, etc.) celebrate Spring in September. Our Earth offers us a variety of times for celebrating.

The project for this lesson is to make a natural leather link belt decorated with symbols of Spring.

VOCABULARY:

Cowhide - Hide (skin) from a mature bovine (cow).

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

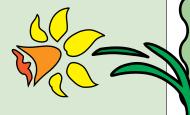
Grain Side - The hair side of the leather with the hair removed.

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.

Veg-Split - Vegetable-Tanned leather can be split (layered) into two pieces: one with the grain (top hair side) and one with the rough surface on both sides. Veg-split is the rough surfaced layer.



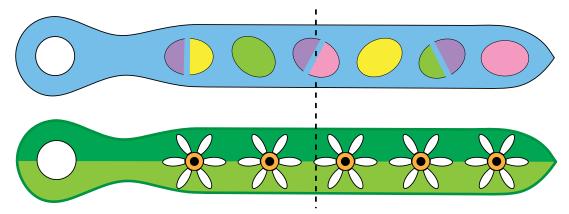




CREATE DESIGNS USING STENCIL PATTERNS & YOUR OWN IDEAS



Here are some color & design ideas. The leather can be left its natural color with just the designs in color or paint the backgrounds and designs different colors.



NOTE: After the belt is fastened through the rings, only about one-half of the billet front will be visible, along with the backside of the billet end. Be sure to have students plan their designs accordingly and apply to both sides of billet.

COLORING HINTS:

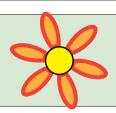
To paint large areas or many links, mix a Cova Color "wash" by diluting the color with water. Be sure to mix enough to do the entire project or keep record of the proportions.

To make bright or light colors stand out on a darker background, paint bright or light colors first. Then fill in background around them with a darker color. Or, put a wash over the area, let dry, then come back and paint the designs in white. Let white dry completely (few minutes), then add desired colors on top of the white.

To blend colors together like a rainbow, first dampen the leather. Mix water with the Cova Colors and apply. This technique will require a longer drying time (maybe overnight) or the use of a hair dryer.

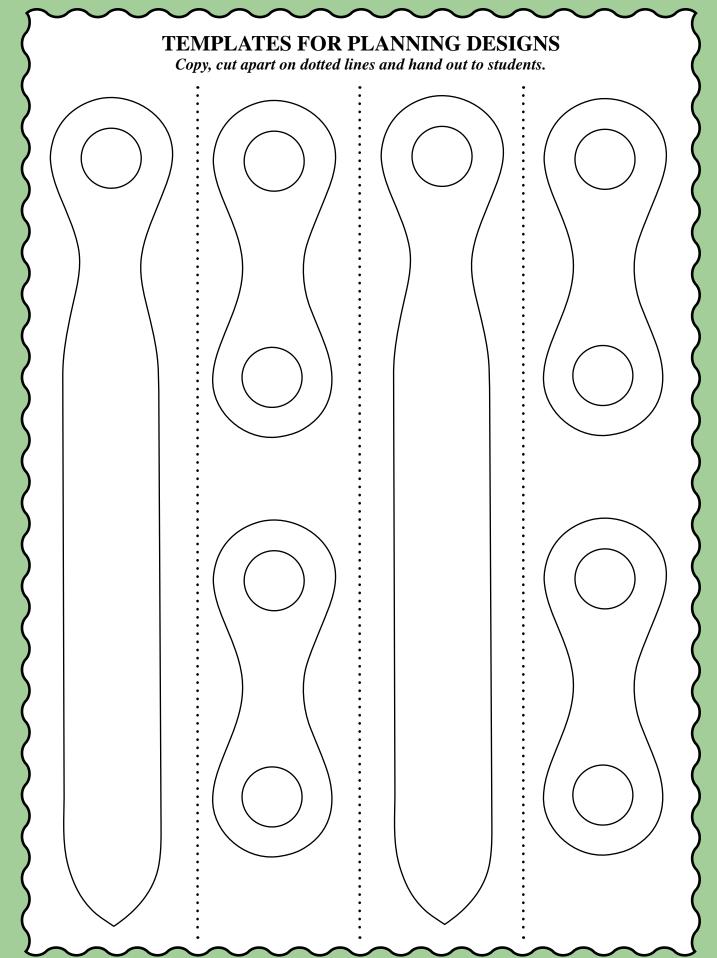
CLASSROOM EXPANSION IDEAS:

- ~ Study how Spring is celebrated in other countries.
- ~ Plant seeds or seedlings and watch them grow.



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."



SIZING & ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS:

SIZE THE LINK BELT TO FIT YOUR WAIST OR A HAT:

- 1) Put link belt or band together following the steps below. Notice how the links overlap so if designs are being put on the links, they can be placed so they will show.
- 2) Add as many links as necessary to fit your waist, wrist or a hat.
- 3) Then take the belt (band) apart again and color designs on all parts before final assembly.

ASSEMBLING THE LINK BELT:

- 1) Take one link and squeeze one end and push it through 2 rings.
- 2) Pull link half way through the rings and fold over aligning the big holes in both ends.
- 3) Take another link, squeeze one end, and push it through the aligned holes in the first ling. Continue to the last link.
- 4) Squeeze the end of the billet with the large hole and push it through the last links' aligned hole.
- 5) Turn the tip of the billet up and push it through its own big hole in its end.
- 6) Pull billet through the hole.

FASTENING THE BELT:



- Slip billet up through both rings.
- Loop billet over edge of top ring only and slip back under top ring.
- Pull tight.

