

LIA GRIFFITH

Materials List & Instructions

Minimalist Leather Wallet

Tools

Sewing machine	Masking Tape
Leather Sewing Machine Needle	Scissors
Heavy Duty Top-Stitching Thread (matching or contrasting)	Thimble
Rotary Cutter, Mat & Ruler	Hand Sewing Needle
Scotch MAGIC Tape	Needle Threader (opt.)
	Pencil

Materials

Leather, thin
(at least 5" x 10")

Tips for working with leather

- Measure twice or three times, cut once
- Tension! Thread tension is an issue when sewing leather. Use leather scraps to check and adjust sewing machines tension before sewing wallet. Ideally the top and bobbin threads are balanced and are only visible on their respective sides. If there are bobbin thread loops showing on the top, loosen the top thread tension. If there are loops from the top thread on the under side, tighten the top thread tension. This is really important, so spend time getting the threads balanced. My machines top tension is usually set at 4, but with leather I had to set it to 7.2 to get the threads balanced.
- Every hole made will always be there. Plan ahead carefully.
- You want long thread tails at the beginnings and ends of each seam. Allow for that. HOLD ON to the beginning tails when you begin each seam to prevent a tangle. The long tails make it easier to secure the seams.
- Lengthen stitch length to 4mm or 4.5mm.

Instructions

1. Gather tools and materials.
2. Using Rotary tools to cut leather to 4" x 8 1/2".
 - Use scraps to balance tension as described above, then proceed (Steps 3-5 are optional decorative top-stitching).
3. Use rotary ruler to measure and masking tape to mark an edge guide at 2 1/2" from needle.

Instructions (continued)

4. Sew the top-stitch row. Remember to leave long thread tails at the beginning and the end. Move the tape edge guide in to 2 1/4" and do the second top stitch row as you did the first.
5. Tie an overhand knot with thread tails, and secure them into the stitches in the back of leather with hand sewing needle.
6. Mark fold lines, on the back of leather, 1 3/4" from edges.
7. Carefully fold on lines. Use Scotch MAGIC Tape to temporarily secure. Double check measurements.
8. Sew both sides, leaving long thread tails at beginning and end. Tie long tread tails into snug overhand knots at corners. Using hand sewing needle, pass each thread through closest stitch hole, into the inside pocket. Use thimble to help push needle.
9. Turn pocket corners inside out one at a time and snugly tie thread tails with a couple square knots. Trim threads. Repeat until all thread tails are secured inside pockets.
10. Press wallet flatter by using a medium temperature iron, NO STEAM. Be sure to place a piece of Kraft paper between iron and wallet.