

12 yd. spool of waxed sail thread

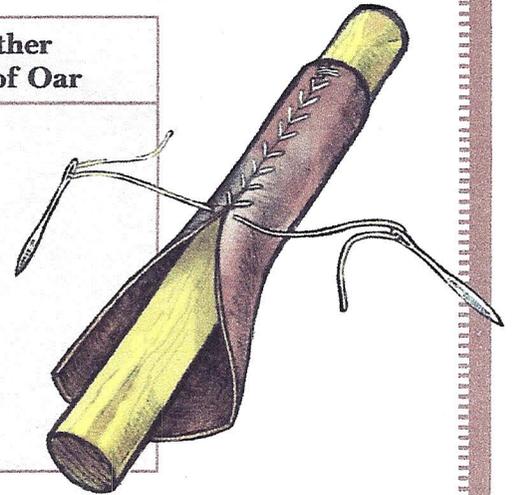
#16 tapstry needles

Positioning Leathers on Oars

Zeplin hitch



Length of Oar	Center of Leather from Grip End of Oar
6'	20"
6½'	21¾"
7'	23½"
7½'	25¼"
8'	27"
8½'	28½"
9'	30¼"
9½'	32"
10'	33½"



INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) To determine the overall width of your leather, measure the circumference of the loom at the appropriate location (see above chart).
- 2) Use pencil to mark the location of the top edge of the leather (the edge closest to the grip) on the oar loom.
- 3) Cut the leather approximately $\frac{3}{16}$ " to $\frac{1}{4}$ " short of the overall width that was determined in step one.
- 4) On a flat surface (protect furniture) punch holes along both edges of leather approximately $\frac{3}{16}$ " from edges, making holes approximately $\frac{3}{8}$ " apart. Be sure to make same number of holes on each side.

SOAK THE LEATHER AFTER PUNCHING THE HOLES

- 5) Apply a few drops of contact cement on back side of leather and position it at the mark on the oar, so that stitching is on the side of the shaft parallel to the blade edge. (On spoon oars, with the oars laying flat, the stitching should be on the right side on one and the left side on the other.)
- 6) Tie leather on shaft with two pieces of string or straps to hold in position.
- 7) Using blunt point egg eye leather needles (one on each end of the thread) and a 6' length of waxed dacron thread, start at the grip end and work your way down, pulling edges of leather together (similar to lacing shoes). It helps to wear gloves to protect hands. When you get to the end, you will have quite a bit of thread left over, so go back up over each stitch, first one side, then the other, to make stitches double. Tie knot at the top, underneath leather.
- 8) Wrap button (a guard often used to help keep oars properly positioned in oarlocks) around leather, making sure that it lands on the leather, about $\frac{1}{16}$ " below its top edge (closest to the grip). Cut a scarf (an angled cut) on the button, then, make a mating scarf on the leather. Apply one coat of contact cement to the top edge of the leather along the scarf joint. Apply two coats to the back and joint edge of the button. When the cement is tacky, attach the button. For best results, clamp with a hose clamp for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour or more.

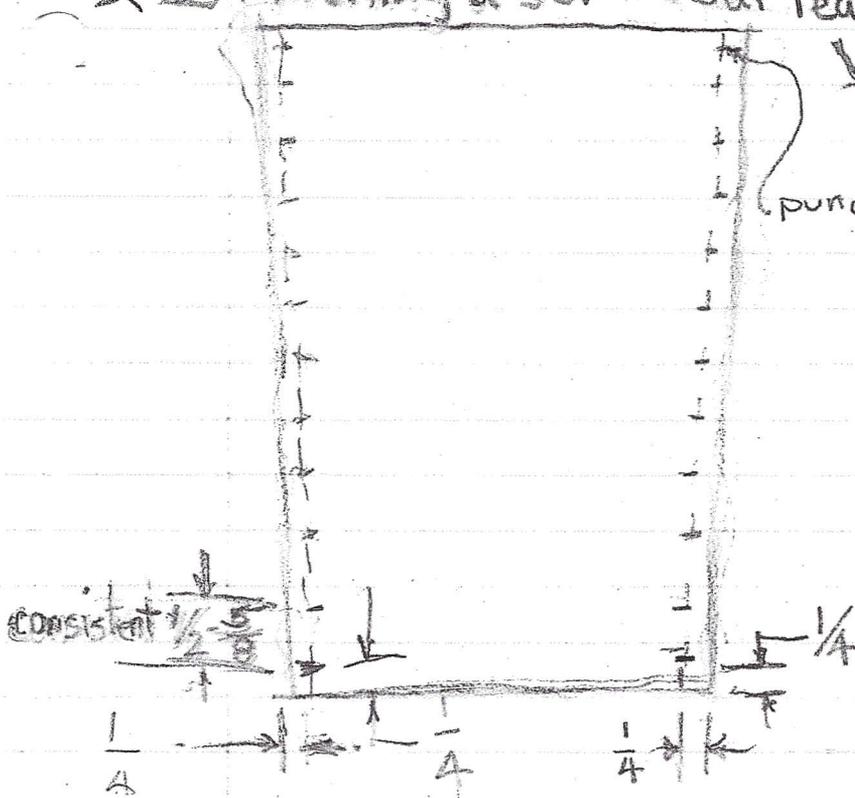


Leathers notes from

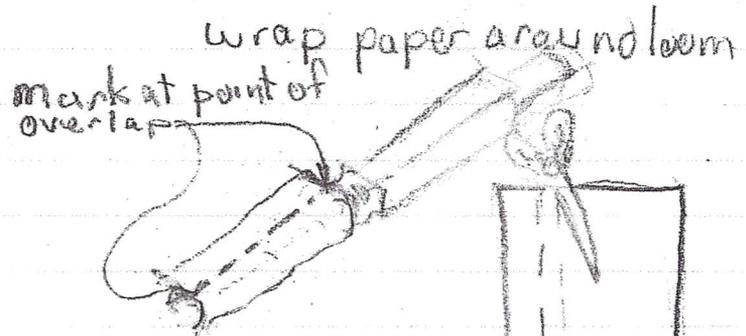
"Making a Pair of Oars" by Eric Dow, pages 88-90
 & "Stitching a set of oar leathers" pages 90-92, Robin Lincoln

Wooden Boat #127

Nov/Dec, 1995



punch $\frac{1}{8}$ " Dia. holes



cut $\frac{1}{4}$ " shorter than circumference

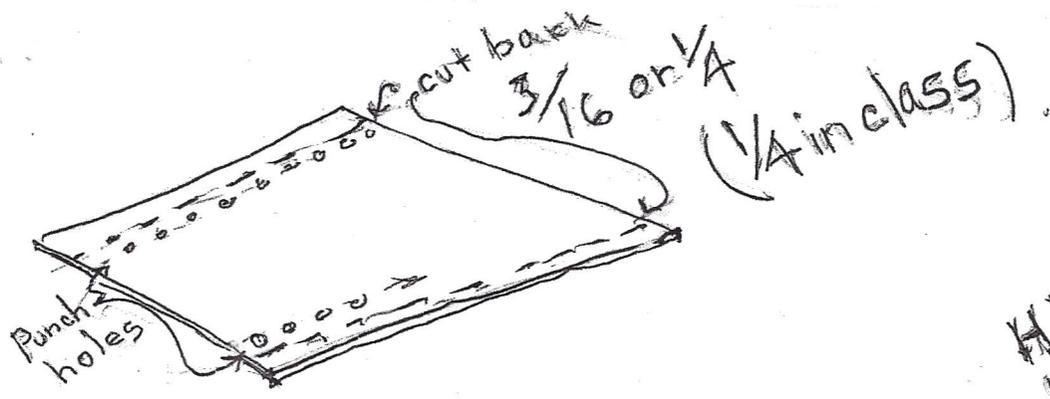
After punching $\frac{1}{8}$ Dia. holes, Soak leather 20 min

End stitch:

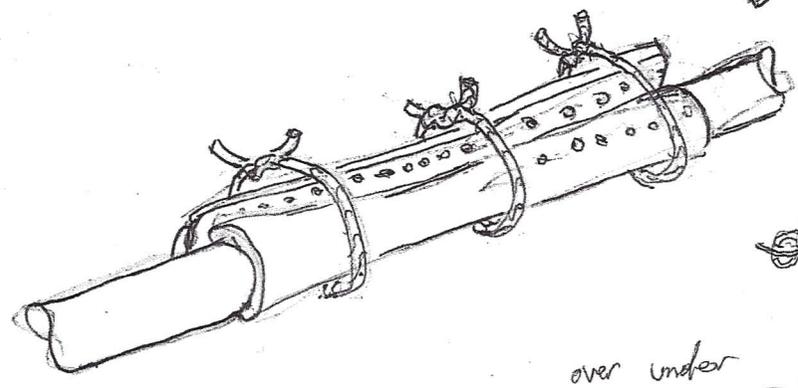
- go around twice with each needle (#14 sailmaker needle)
- if using waxed nylon
- Start at handle end. (#16 tapestry needles work well)

Tools & Mats

- (2) #14 sailmaker's needles
- waxed synthetic handsewing thread or sailmaker's thread.
- Leather for 12" to 24" length as necessary.



Hide knot
under at
beginning



over under



Paper
overlap

