

Leather Wheel Rim Cover Installation Instructions

Included:

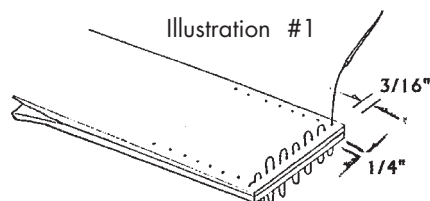
- Pre-punched Leather
- Double Sided Tape
- Spool of Waxed Twine
- Sewing Needle

May Be Needed

- Sewing Thimble
- Pliers
- Sailmakers Palm

Step #1

Unwrap leather and position around wheel rim. Suede side must be facing out to prevent mildew. This also provides a more secure grip when wet. Starting by a spoke, wrap leather around wheel, stretch tight and mark leather where ends meet. Allowing $\frac{3}{8}$ " overlap at ends, cut leather square at mark. The two ends should be sewn together to form a seam as shown in illustration #1.

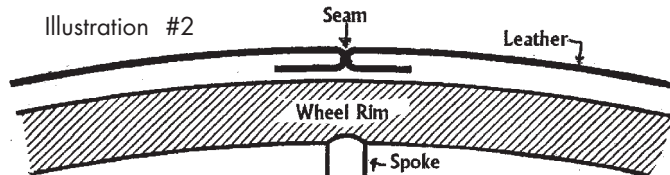


Step #2

On the outer rim of the wheel, by every spoke, center a 3" piece of double-sided tape. This will keep the cover in place while installing and prevent slipping after installation.

Step #3

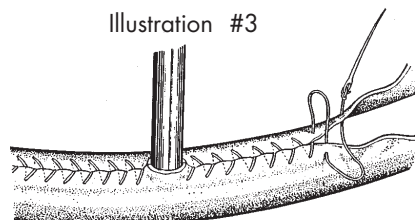
Turn the cut ends of the leather cover to the inside of the wheel and place over outside diameter of the rim neatly and evenly. Cover should be evenly tensioned around the wheel. Seam edges should be folded under on each side to lie flat (see illustration #2). If you need to stretch the leather to make it fit tighter around the wheel, soak it for a few minutes in water.



TIP: Place seam on wheel so it is centered on top or bottom when rudder is centered. This will give you a reference mark for straight-ahead steering.

Step #4

Thread about 36" of twine onto needle (this will give you enough thread to sew approx. 6". Knot the end of the twine (figure 8 knot) and start from the inside of the cover at the holes next to a spoke. Make two turns through that pair of holes and then move to the next holes. Begin sewing cover using a baseball or shoestring stitch as shown in illustration #3. Pull every stitch with even tension. (Pliers may help get a better hold on the needle.) When you reach a spoke, double stitch before and after the spoke and skip a hole in the way of the spoke. If you run out of thread before you reach a spoke, simply double stitch at that point, rethread needle and pick up where you left off, making sure thread is secured at end.



Step #5

Make the last three stitches loose, do not pull tight. Then make the same double stitch as in the beginning at the last hole closest to the spoke with the line passing under the three loose stitches. Carefully tighten each stitch until you have tightened all stitches, then pull the line tight under the last three stitches and cut.

Step #6

Your leather cover should be cleaned with saddle soap occasionally to prevent drying out.