



# The Leatherworking Handbook: A Practical Illustrated Sourcebook of Techniques and Projects

By Valerie Michael

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Valerie Michael—a founding member of the Association of Design Leatherworkers—has created the definitive guide to this popular and age-old craft. Oriented to the beginner, it thoroughly presents all the materials, tools, and key techniques in easy-to-follow photographs: finishing edges, paring and hand-stitching, making pockets, attaching studs and straps, and decorating surfaces. The well-chosen projects take into account developing skills, and range from belt and wallets to quilted items and bags. An invaluable reference work.

“...Instructions are concise enough to offer craft enthusiasts of differing skill levels a range of projects to undertake.”—*Booklist*.

“Excellent and easy-to-understand introduction to classic leatherworking.”—*Library Journal*.

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- Sales Rank: #10248 in Books
- Brand: Michael, Valerie
- Published on: 2006-03-28
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 10.50" h x .50" w x 8.50" l, 1.04 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 128 pages

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### **Editorial Review**

From [Booklist](#)

Michael's guide covers basic leatherworking techniques, describes the scientific makeup of an animal skin, explains the tanning process, and depicts an efficient workshop setup. In addition, Michael specifies tools and equipment and lists the materials necessary to sew, dye, glue, and finish each project. Line drawings combined with photographs effectively illustrate methods used to create a variety of boxes, belts, purses, wallets, briefcases, and molded decorative masks. And Michael's step-by-step instructions are concise enough to offer craft enthusiasts of differing skill levels a range of projects to undertake. Color plates depict finished pieces, and sources of supplies are noted. *Alice Joyce*

About the Author

Valerie Michael is a founding member of the Association of Designer Leatherworkers and has been a full-time leatherworker for over twenty years.

### **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Janice Saucier:**

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**Dennis Utley:**

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