

Leather Pouch

by Alexander von Lübeck

Pouches are useful for storing small things, like coins. Our ancestors used pouches, often made of leather, which we can see in surviving artwork. Sometimes the pouches hung from a belt; sometimes they hung from the neck. Archaeologists have also found leather pouches from long ago, such as the Viking Heddeby leather pouch. This is a very simple pouch that is easy to make!

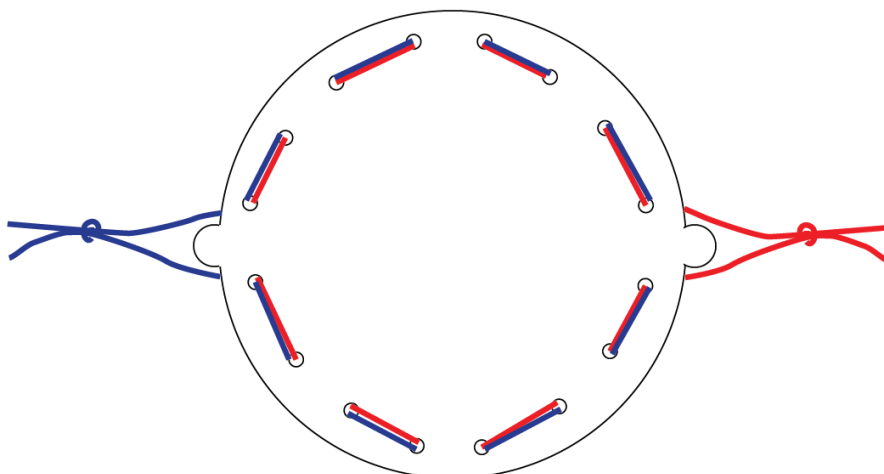
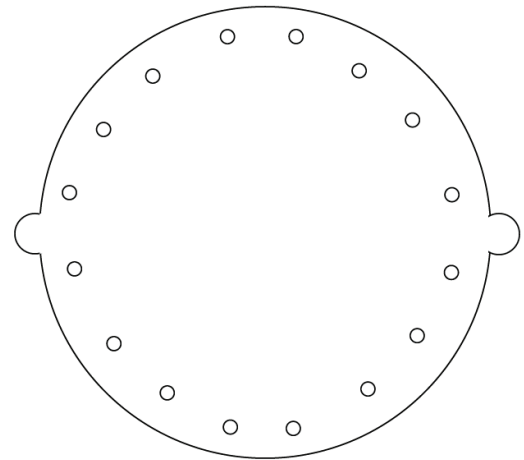
Heddeby Leather Pouch Materials:

- 10" x 10" thin, supple leather (brown, tan, earthtone color)
- Two (2) 24-inch-long (61 cm.) leather thongs (1/8"/3mm. thick)
- Scissors (to cut the pouch)
- 1/4" (6 mm) leather punch (to cut the holes in the leather)



Heddeby Leather Pouch Instructions:

1. Cut a circle out of the leather, about 9.5" (24 cm) in diameter, with two small semicircular "ears" to use as opening tabs, about 1" - 2.5cm. across (see pattern).
2. Punch 16 holes around the circumference of the leather. (Note: You can punch more or less holes, but in order for the draw string mechanism to work the number of holes must be divisible by 4.)
3. Put the thongs through the pouch as shown in the diagram (one thong is shown as red, the other as blue).



4. Knot the ends of the two thongs to make two complete loops.

That's it! To open your pouch, pull on the "ears." To close your pouch, pull the thongs.