

HOW TO MAKE the High Top

Moccasin

Instructional Guide



Loafer Style
Equipment;

~Glover Needles~

Glover needles are unique 3 sided sharp needles and are necessary for hand sewing materials like your suede and leathers.

They are sold in a variety of sizes; I prefer to work with a size 5 or 6.

~Leather Threads~

I have found that a good strong upholstery thread, or extra heavy duty, nylon thread about a size 40 is best to sew suede and leather.

~ Bees Wax~

The topic of threads brings us to the use of a product called Bees Wax. Bees wax can be a very handy piece of equipment for any person who does any type of hand sewing. After you've threaded your needle, simply run your thread over the wax several



Fur or Leather Trimmed

times. This helps to keep your thread from becoming unruly (tangled) and also aids in slipping thru your materials more easily.

I use bees wax often and many times whilst I'm beading or sewing. I will stop and run my thread over the wax as needed.

~ Materials~

There are a lot of different materials to make moccasins available; most common is suede also known as Alaskan splits, variety of leathers; cow, deerskin, moose etc. I mostly use the Alaskan split it's soft, economical, and easy to sew its also dyed and comes in a huge variety of colors.

~ Linings~

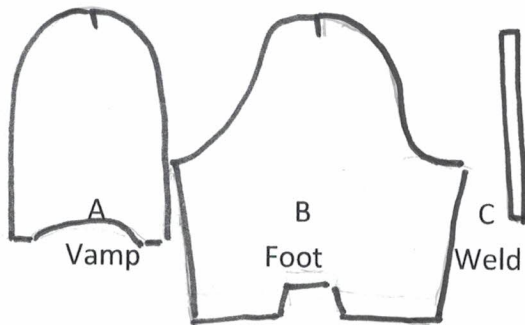
A soft medium weight pile lining is very good for most moccasins. But the thickness usually depends on individual preferences.

~Trimmings~

Can be fur or suede trimmed.

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High top Moc ~The pieces



Sewing

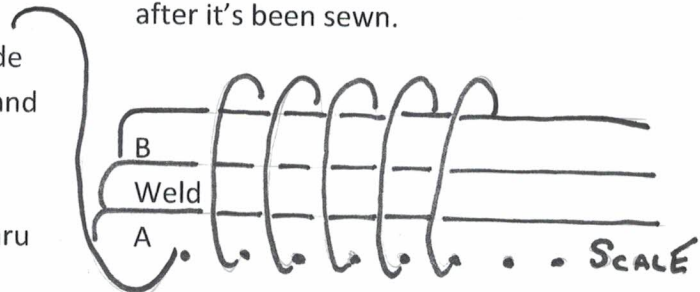
For best results when sewing suede and leathers I always use the whipstitch and the $\frac{3}{16} \times \frac{1}{4}$ inch sewing rule. The Glover needle is a very sharp three sided needle that cuts a small hole each time it goes thru your material actually weakening it. Therefore close and short stitches will not achieve your ideal Mocs. Also careful not to sew onto your sewn threads the needle will cut your thread!

Sewing the Toe

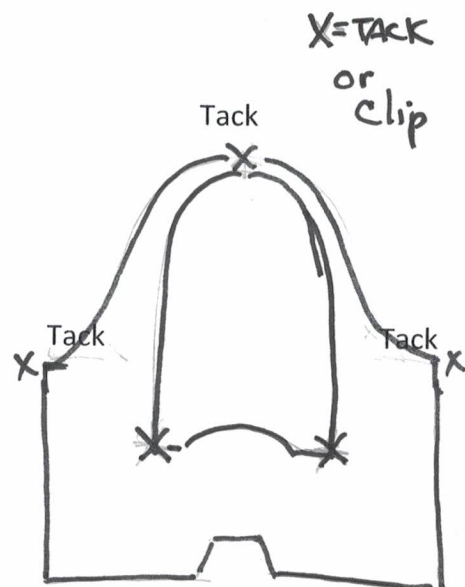
Sewing the vamp to the foot is the most difficult part of making Moccasins and that is because you have to gather the bottom of the foot to fit the vamp and form the toe. It's hard at first to learn the tucks but time and practice makes perfect. With your wrong sides facing each other match up first your top vamp and foot piece together at the lined mark the vamp piece. Tack your vamp to the foot at marked sides.

Cut 2 pieces of A suede or other
 Cut 2 pieces of B suede or other
 Cut 2 of each piece of pile lining

*The weld is a long piece of suede and is cut about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide and is the length the heel pieces. The weld is sewn in-between the two heel pieces to strengthen it, and anywhere that two pieces of suede are sewn together. Trim off the excess weld after it's been sewn.



Whipstitch $\frac{3}{16}$ deep x $\frac{1}{4}$ inches apart

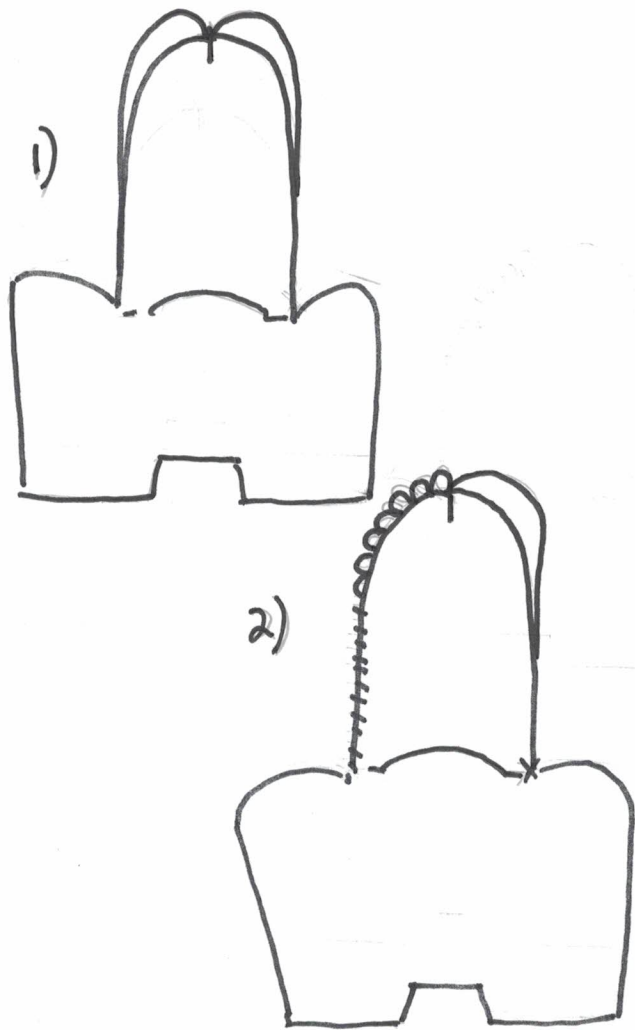


If you are right handed, you will most comfortably sew to the right side. Push about 1 cm or less of the foot material together to form a tuck. Stitch along the side and over, pulling your thread very tight. Tuck another right beside the first one and continue to make and sew tucks until the extra fullness of the foot material is gone. This should happen within the first 1 ½ to 2 ½ inches. Continue to stitch down the side with the same $\frac{3}{16} \times \frac{1}{4}$ overcast stitch but with no tucks.

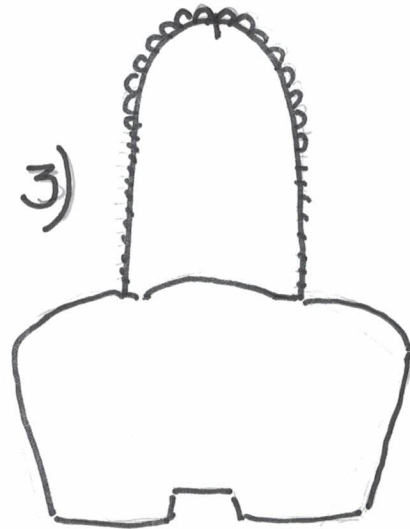
- It's better to have smaller tucks than too large of ones.
- Pull your thread very snug after each stitch.
- Keep your stitches $\frac{3}{16}$ inch deep, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch apart. Tucks will slip away if stitches are too shallow.
- To secure your tucks tie a knot and back stitch if need be.

Stitch the remaining half of your moccasin starting at the right side. Sew straight and begin tucks about 1 ½ to 2 ½ inches from the center.

Put your hand inside, push and check for weak points or tuck holes if you need to, go back and put an extra stitch in for correction.



Gathers & Tucks



Sewing the Heel

Cut up the two heel marks, fold the back foot good sides together and with a weld piece between whipstitch using the $\frac{3}{16} \times \frac{1}{4}$ sewing rule. Sew from top of heel to the bottom, flip out to right side and trim the excess weld. Flip to wrong side again, fold at bottom of the heel. It should look like a T. Sew that little piece with the notch left in to use as its weld. Flip to the right side and trim the weld off.

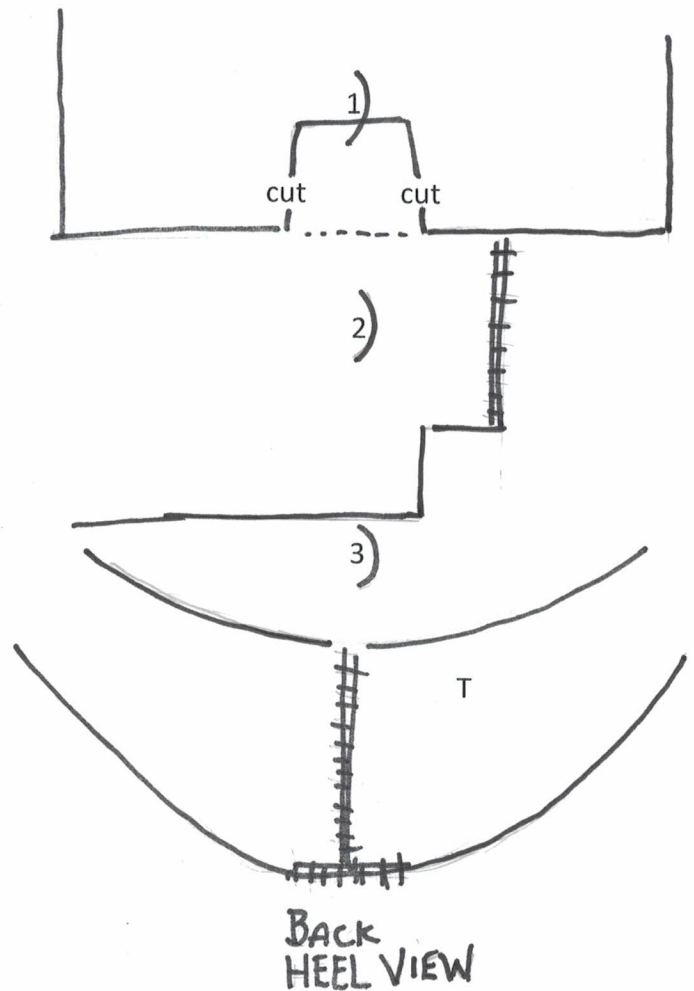
Lining for the moccasins are made in the same way. Good sides facing together and sewn around. No weld is needed. Fit your linings into your moccasin and baste or tack your linings around the opening to secure together.

Sewing On the Top Trims

Measure around the top opening of your moccasin to determine the length of piece of fur or leather trim you will need. * The width is determined according to style, size or preference. For example and adult size Moc I usually do 2 ½ inches wide.

The trim is sewn on using the same whipstitch $\frac{3}{16} \times \frac{1}{4}$ inch rule and sewn like a bias binding. The trim good side should be facing the interior lining of the Moc. Start sewing from the heel seam all around the foot opening. Flip trim out and over and tack your trim down.

YOU MAY SELL ITEMS MADE USING THESE PATTERNS. YOU MAY NOT COPY, SELL, OR REDISTRIBUTE THESE PATTERNS IN ANY FORM.



- Flip trim out and over
- Fur is cut using a razor blade on the skin side.



Tack fur or leather trim down.

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