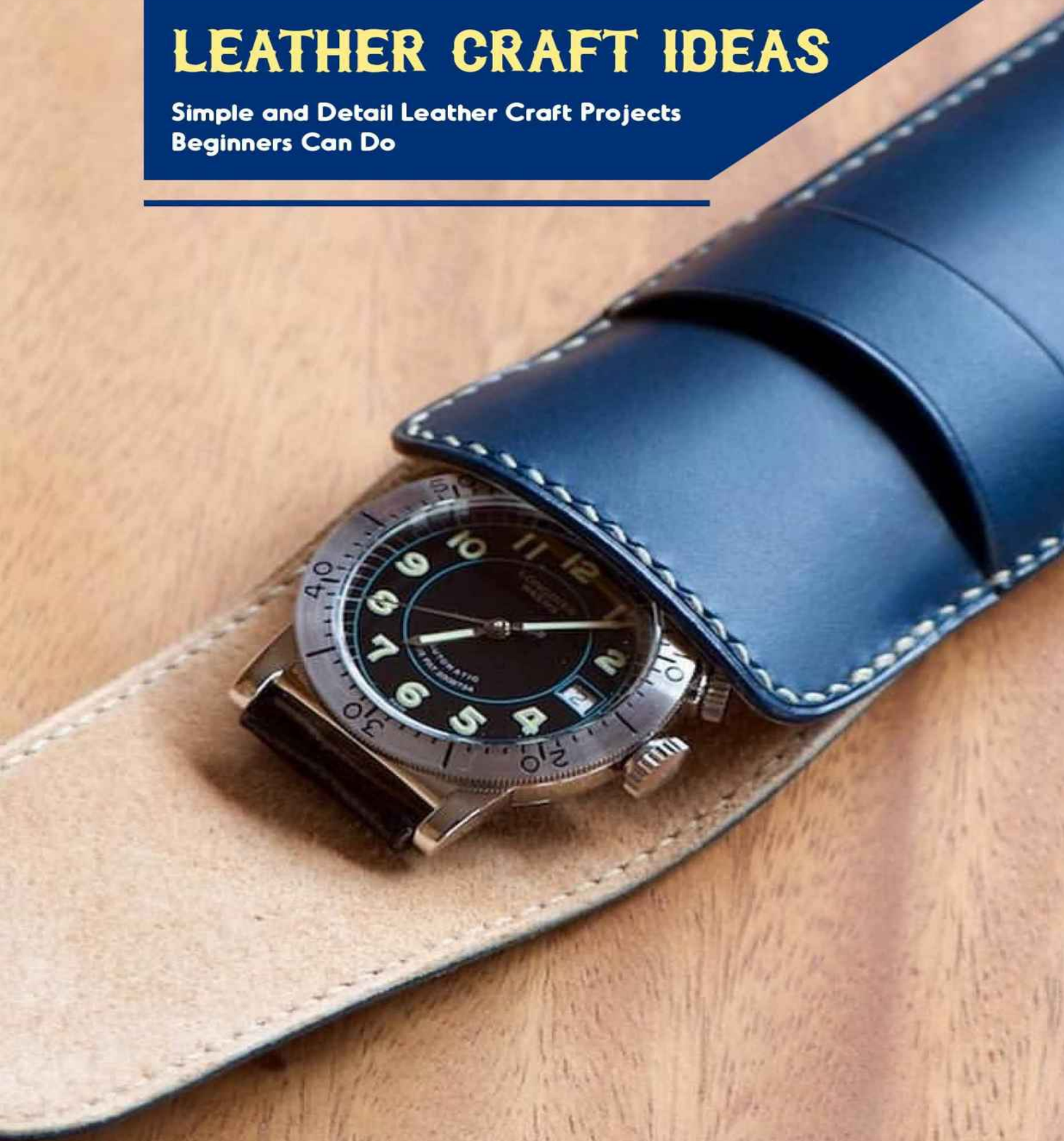


LEATHER CRAFT IDEAS

Simple and Detail Leather Craft Projects
Beginners Can Do



Leather Craft Ideas

Simple and Detail Leather Craft Projects Beginners Can Do

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Contents

Leather Envelope Clutch	3
Monogrammed Leather Cufflinks	8
Leather Valet Tray	12
Leather Folders	20
Suede And Gold Leaf Polka Dot Mousepad	28
Tassel Sandals	33
Leather Ipad Case	40
Ombre Leather Coasters	45
Hexagon Vanity Tray.....	49

Leather Envelope Clutch



MATERIALS

leather

Brass stud screw backs

printed cotton fabric

Fusible appliqué paper

sharp scissors

Leather hole punch

small template

large template



DIRECTIONS

Step 1. Print the template. For the 3.5 in x 5 in small clutch, trace the template on the backside of the leather. For the 4.5 in x 6 in large envelope clutch, print two copies of template, cut and tape together. Note: cut the templates to the edge of paper.

Step 2. Cut the leather using leather shears or sharp scissors. Mark a spot on the corners where the hole punch will go. You want the holes to match up when folded together.



Step 3. Next, get the fabric ready for lining the inside of clutch. Using the template, trace the portion of the top of the envelope onto the

wrong (back) side of fabric.

Step 4. Remove a side of the fusible appliqué paper and place on the back side of fabric and iron.



Step 5. Place the sticky side to the inside of the leather clutch and iron using low heat.

Step 6. Using the leather hole punch, punch a hole in each corner. Make sure to line the holes up by folding the corners into the middle. Start by folding in the right side, left side, bottom to top.



Step 7. Place the screw back on the backside of the right corner. Place the left corner on top. Next the bottom corner on top of screw back and finally the top corner.

Step 8. Screw the top (stud) of screw back on top. You are finished with your leather envelope clutch.



Monogrammed Leather Cufflinks



MATERIALS

gold cufflinks

leather remnants

alphabet punch

tacky glue

scissors



DIRECTIONS

Using your cufflinks as a template, trace around the edges onto your leather and cut your circles out. this will be the hardest part of the

project, i swear. do your best to make the shapes as round as possible and use the thinnest leather to make it as easy as you can.



Once cut, dampen your leather circles with a wet paper towel and stamp letters in.

Glue onto your cufflinks and let dry!



Leather Valet Tray



MATERIALS

Leather scrap

Copper rivets

Copper burrs

Ruler

Marking tool (pen, awl, or embosser)

Ball peen hammer and/or rivet setter

Knife

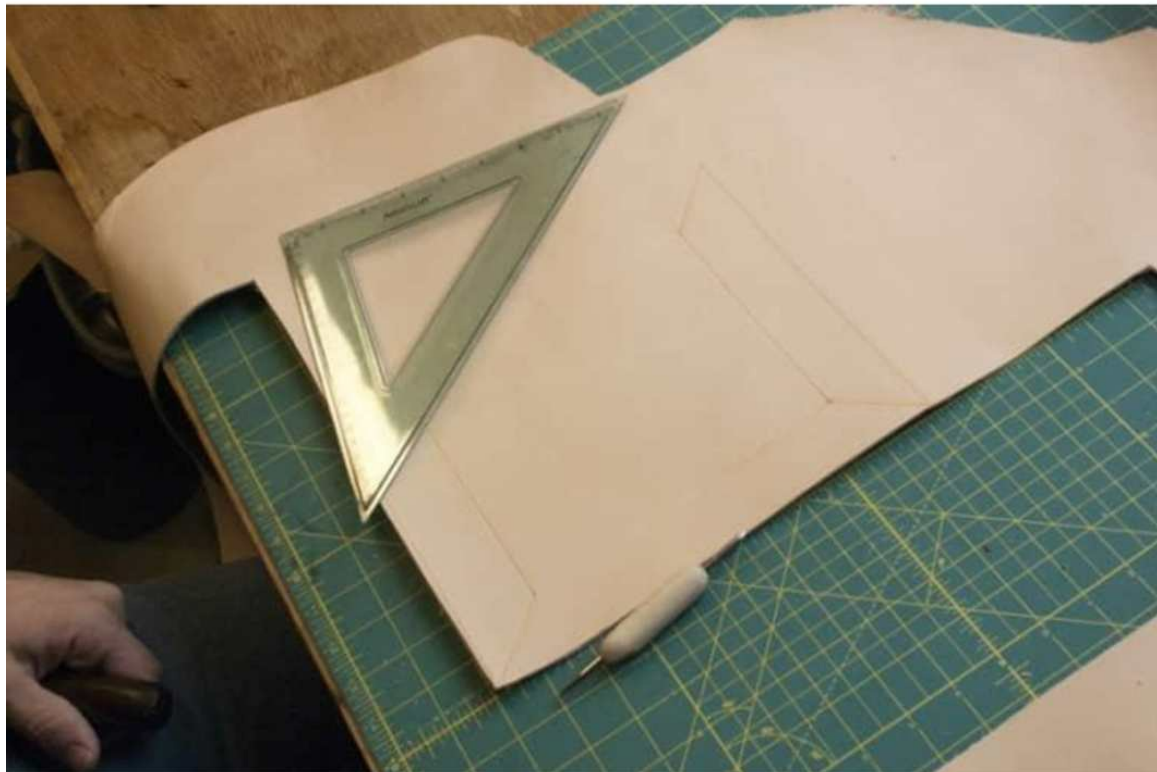
Hole punch (optional)

DIRECTIONS



1. First decide how big you want to valet to be. In this case, Paul took

several items he planned to store in the tray, laid them out and measured their footprint, then added an inch in every direction to accommodate the sides.

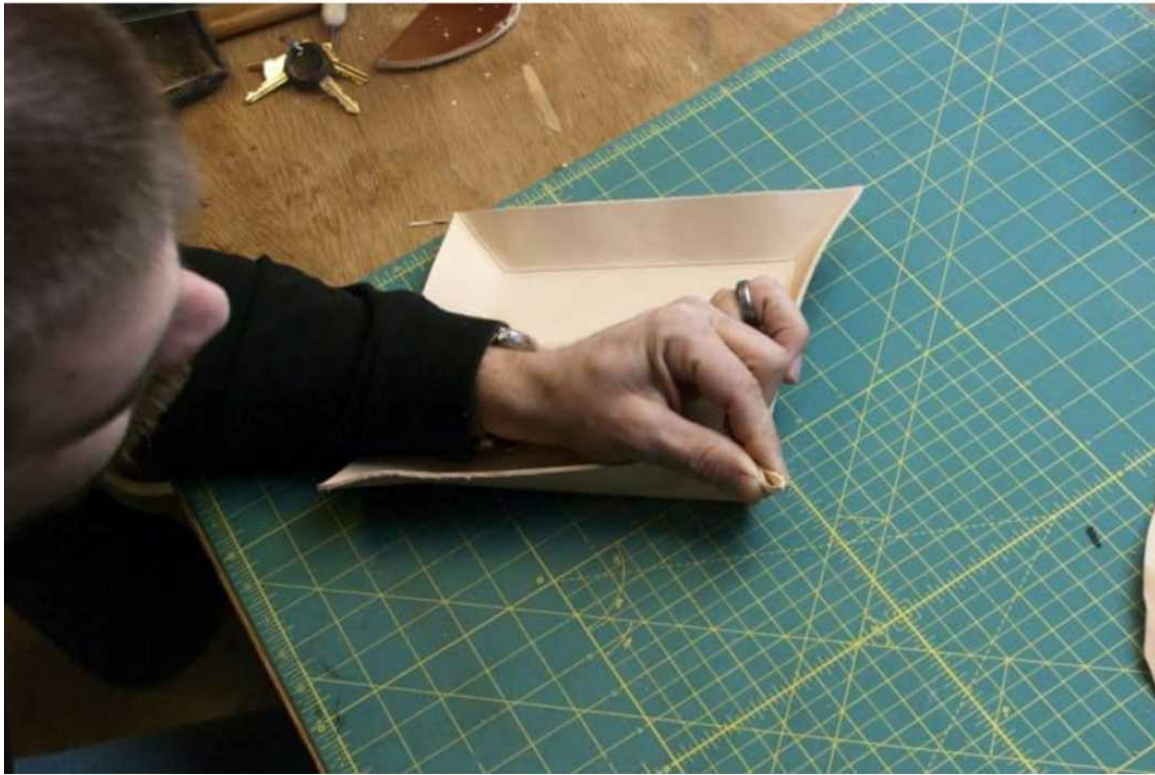


2. Once you know your size, it's time to draw onto the leather. Mark both the outside shape of the valet, as well as the lines where you'll eventually fold the leather up to make the sides.

Tip: Although you can use a pen for this step, Paul prefers to use a metal point (like the one on the photo) that leaves an indent that is easy to follow, without having to worry about ink bleeding or smearing elsewhere on the leather.



3. Next, cut out the leather. There are specialty knives (like a head knife or wood carvers knife), but a simple X-Acto knife with a new blade will do the trick.



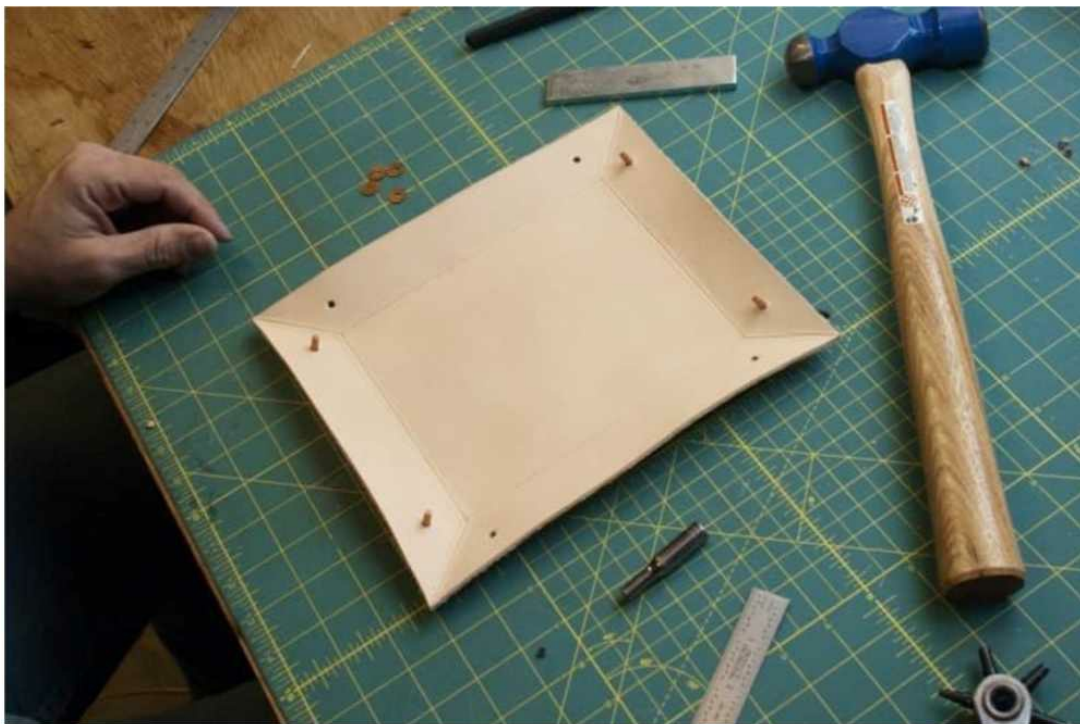
4. Next, fold the leather on the embossed the line. This is to encourage the leather to hold the desired shape when the corners are pinched together.

5. After pinching each of the four corners together, secure them in place. Here, Paul uses rivets, which might seem difficult, but are really quite simple. You can buy copper rivets individually at your local hardware store (just don't forget the little copper washers that go with them).

Tip: If you don't like rivets you can sew them together with a needle and thread instead, or with a tool like the Speedy Stitcher.



Figure out where to place the rivets. Just remember, the rivets will actually pinch and hold the leather together about an $\frac{1}{8}$ inch beyond the edge of the rivet head. If you've never worked with rivets before, buy a few extra and practice on a scrap piece of leather before you do this step.



7. Now insert the rivets in their holes and smash them down tight.



Add your keys and wallet, and you're done!

Leather Folders



MATERIALS

-leather (smaller folder uses an 8.5 x 11" piece and larger folder uses an 11.5 x 18" piece) *We used black and natural leather we found online

-pencil

-rotary cutter and/or X-ACTO knife

-ruler

-mallet

-two leather stitching needles

-waxed thread

-leather awl

-lighter

DIRECTIONS



1. Use a pencil and ruler to draw out the tab shapes on opposite ends of the leather.



2. Cut along the pencil lines with a rotary cutter and/or X-ACTO knife while holding a ruler right along the lines for straight cutting.

You should end up with a piece of leather that looks like this:



3. Fold over the leather so that the bottom edge comes up just a little short of lining up with the top edge and use a mallet to pound along the fold. Cover the leather with a towel to protect it from mallet marks.



4. Thread a stitching needle and poke the needle through the thread.



5. Pull the needle through the thread, then twist the thread tight.

6. Repeat steps 4 and 5 to the other end of the thread.



7. Pierce a hole with a leather awl through both layers of leather near the bottom corner of the folder.



8. Insert one needle into the holes and pull it through until the center of the thread is between the two holes.

9. Switch the needles to the opposite hands and pass them through the same holes again one at a time. This creates a double loop with the thread.

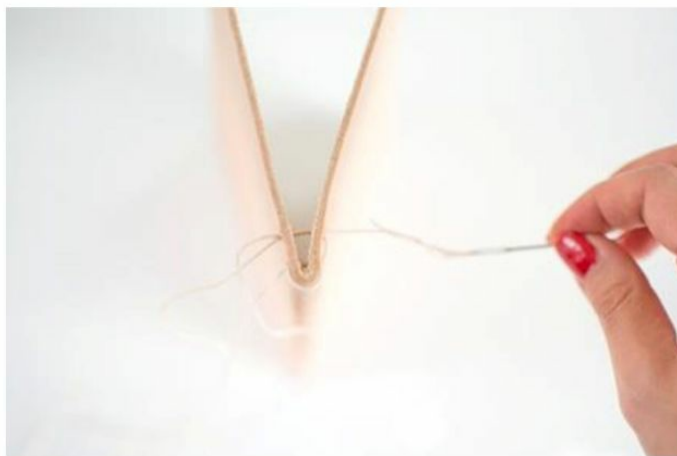


10. Pull both ends of the thread tight.



11. Pierce another hole along the edge of the folder.

12. Insert the needle on one end through the hole to the opposite side and pull it through tightly.



13. Insert the needle on the other end through the same hole to the opposite side and pull tightly.

14. Repeat steps 10-13 along the entire edge.

15. At the last hole, knot each end of the thread and cut off the excess.



16. Lightly pass a lighter flame over each knot a few times. You'll see the wax from the thread melt into a ball.

17. Repeat steps 5-16 on the opposite edge of the folder.



Suede And Gold Leaf Polka Dot Mousepad



MATERIALS

old mousepad

enough suede (or leather, or faux leather — you get the idea) to cover
the mousepad

scissors

pen

freezer paper

hole punch

iron

ModPodge

gold leaf

two craft paintbrushes

spray adhesive

DIRECTIONS

Start by tracing your mousepad onto the backside of your suede, and cutting it out. Set that aside. Punch holes in your freezer paper and cut a small square around each hole. Place them strategically on the front side of your suede, and iron them shiny side down so that they stick.



Next, use a paintbrush to paint ModPodge inside of each hole. While it's wet, apply a small patch of gold leaf. Pat the gold leaf down with a dry paintbrush.



Let the ModPodge dry for about 30 minutes and carefully remove the freezer paper, being careful to keep the edges of the polka dot intact. Let the glue dry overnight before you use the mousepad, and be sure to dust off all remnants of the gold leaf, to keep your mouse safe.



Finally, cover the back of the suede with spray adhesive and affix it to your old mousepad. Be sure that you match the edges well before you press firmly



Woah! So much better. And now it's like a little polka dot party every time I use my computer. Have fun!

Tassel Sandals



MATERIALS

strappy sandals(here I've used Stuart Weitzman's Nudist – my favorite!)

8 pieces of 5×5 ultra suede fabric (2 of each color)

fabric glue

fabric shears

ruler

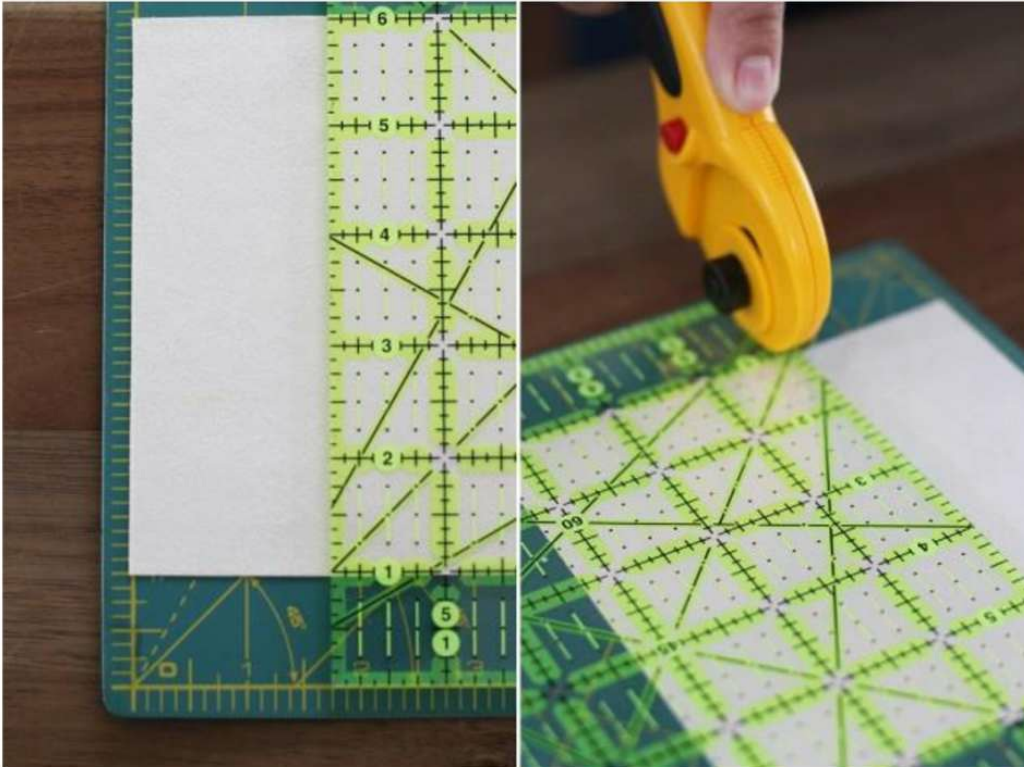
pen



DIRECTIONS

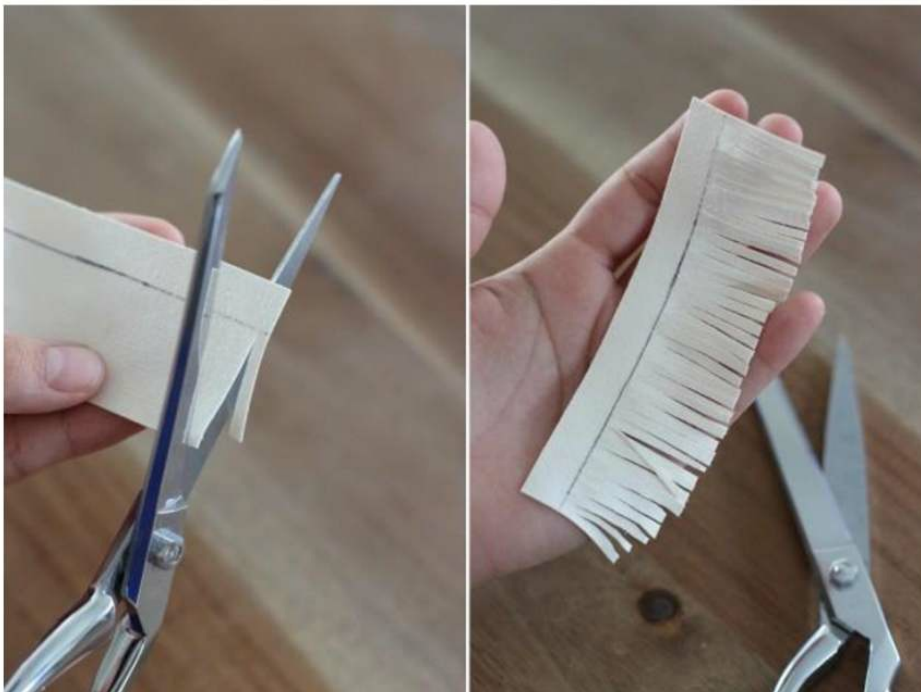
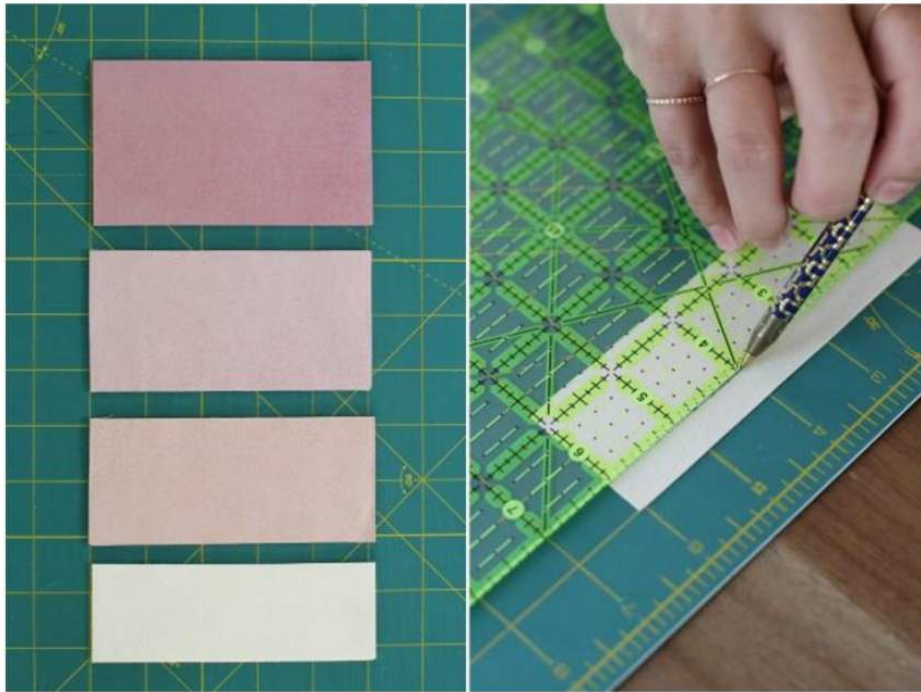
The first step is to decide the order of colors. I discovered an Etsy vendor who conveniently sells an 8 pack of 5×5 ultra suede fabric pieces in complimentary shades. I choose a beautiful pink and blush ombré, of course. The tassels measure from shortest to longest: 1

$3/4" \times 5"$, $2\ 1/4" \times 5"$, $2\ 3/4" \times 5"$, and $3" \times 5"$. Cut each piece accordingly.



Line up a ruler along the fabric lengthwise, leaving a $1/2"$ border. Draw a light line. And repeat on the rest of the pieces of suede.

Use fabric shears to cut thin strips (approx $1/8"$), stopping at the line each time. Set aside a repeat with the remaining rectangular pieces of ultra suede.



With the extra ultra suede, cut 1/4" x 2" pieces (2 of each color). Use

the fabric glue and dab a small amount of glue to the tip of each thin strip.



Bring the other end to close the loop. Place the loop on top of the line side of the fringe. Put a dab of glue on the bottom of the loop and start to tightly roll the fringe.



Once you've reached the end of the fringe, dab a small amount of glue at the end of the top of the fringe to seal the tassel.



Allow your tassels to dry for a few hours before sliding them onto the straps of your sandals.



Fini!

Leather Ipad Case



MATERIALS

soft leather

elastic band

upholstery scissors (or a rotary cutter if you get down)

suede cord

pins

needle

thread

xacto

glue (optional)



DIRECTIONS

step one . cut down your leather using your ipad as a guide. leave it long on top and bottom.

step two . cut out four strips of the elastic, making sure they're long enough to essentially loop around the corners of the ipad.



step three . again, using your ipad as a guide, measure and mark where your elastic pieces will go to securely fit. if they're too loose, un pin and pin again. you want to make sure they're as tight as possible so it won't fall out. pin the elastic down into place.

step four . sew the elastic bands into the leather. it's ok if it looks whack — it really won't be visible once your ipad is in place. also if your elastic is not perfectly straight like mine, as long as you have enough leather to trim off on top and bottom – you can make it straight afterwards.



step five . now if you're not an advanced sewer, you might notice the back looks wonky once the elastic is sewn in. mine pinched all over the place which i knew would bother me. so in order to hide this (and add more protection to the ipad) i cut out another piece of leather and glued them together.

step six . once the leathers dry, measure, mark and cut out the shape you want. you can do a much straighter line with a rotary cutter, but my scissors worked fine. i cut it long enough so there would be a flap on the right side of the ipad.

step seven . using an xacto, cut a slit onto your flap and make sure it's wide enough for your cord to thread through. knot it on the inside, and trim it to where you can wrap the cord around the case a couple of times.

and there you have it! a very minimal and simple ipad case that's soft enough to cuddle with.



Ombre Leather Coasters



MATERIALS

leather or faux leather

printable template for stenciling

rotary cutter

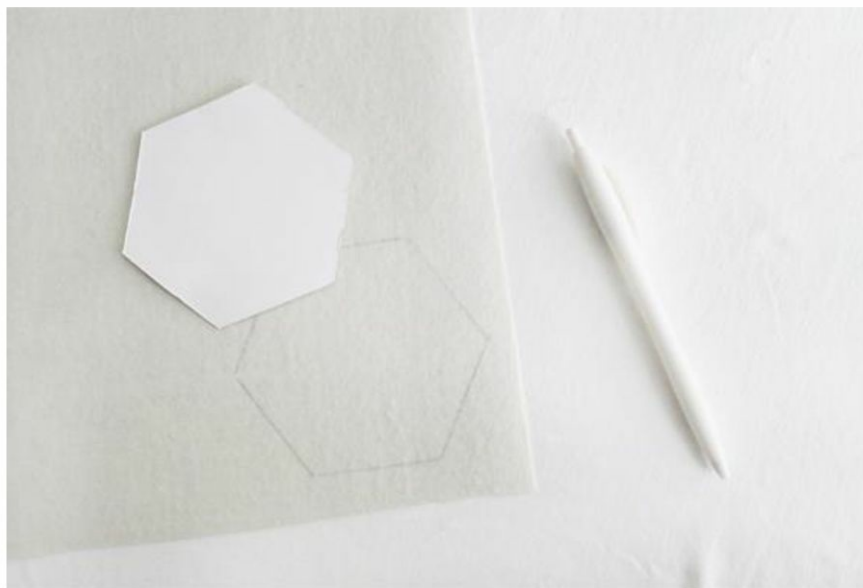
pen

spray paint in the color of your choice



DIRECTIONS

Print out your hexagon. if you know what size you want and use photoshop, make yourself a template. if you want to use mine, click below to download. (these measure about 4") cut it out.



If you have faux leather like mine, the back might have a soft backside which is easily draw-on-able. if you're using real leather or a leather without a backing, decide which side is prettier and trace on the other one around your hexagons.

Over a cutting surface, using your rotary cutter and a ruler, cut out your hexagons.



Once you have them all cut, take them outside and place on a piece of cardboard. spray paint them by spray painting your cardboard surface and slowly work your way from side to side to cover some of your coaster. in retrospect, i may have liked them with less spray

paint than these have. try the less is more approach, and add more after taking a step back. let dry.



Hexagon Vanity Tray



MATERIALS

4 x sheets of A4 thick craft card

Pencil

Xacto knife

Tray PDF template printed out — Click to download large tray [here](#) and inner tray [here](#))

Leatherette in two colors

All purpose glue or a glue gun

Scissors



DIRECTIONS

First, print and cut around the template shapes so that you have the all the right pieces to draw around.

Mark out the shapes with a pencil onto the thick card and cut out with your scalpel.



To assemble the trays you'll need to take each side individually,

applying the all purpose glue along the side of the tray bottom first. Hold in place until it's secured.

After the first side, you'll also need to apply a line of glue along one of the tray side edges so that you can gradually join all the sides up.

Press together with your fingers but don't worry too much about it looking a little messy as you're going to cover this later.



When you've done this with both the hexagon tray and the inner tray, you can start cutting the leatherette to cover them.

You can draw around then template shapes as a guide again, doubling the depth of the sides to cover both the outside and inside of each.

The bottom of each tray will be slightly larger than the template now that the sides have been added so simply draw around the bases of your trays to get the right size to cover it.



Put a generous amount of glue on both the leatherette and the side you want to stick, spreading it evenly so there are no lumps.

Then, fix the leatherette to the card starting inside and then taking it over to the outside.

A handy tip is to put a line of glue along the top of each side so that as you bring the leatherette over the top, it creates smooth fold without any air bubbles.



Repeat this for each side and then glue in the inside piece followed by the bottom piece.

Now you're ready to fill your trays with whatever you want. The leather covering means it's wipeable which is handy for beauty products!

