

Traditional Men's Anklets

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 Noc Bay Trading Company
 PO Box 295
 Escanaba, MI 49829



Photo by Joe Kazumura

Backing the white fur material is necessary to give it support so that it holds together and wears well over time, as it often gets wet during use.

Match up a hide piece and scrap leather backing, trimming them if necessary. Carefully coat one side of the scrap leather with a light covering. Use a cotton swab if necessary to spread the glue. Let it dry.

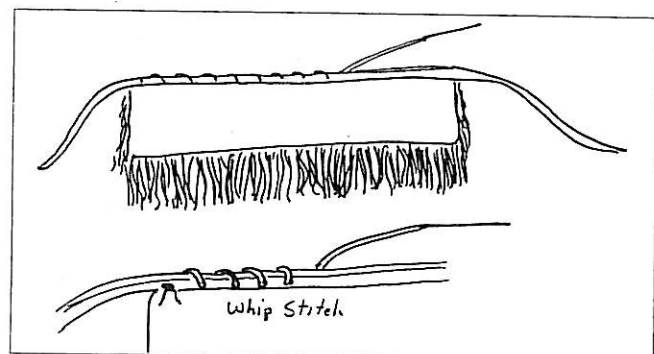
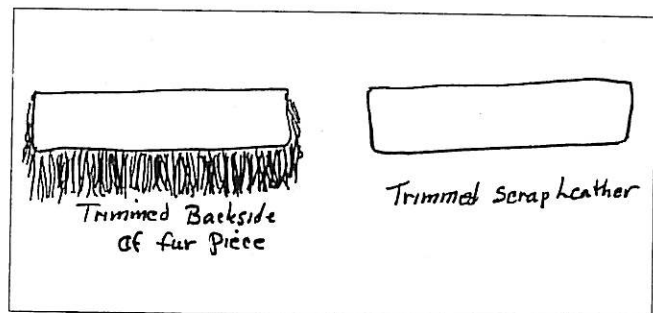
Coat the hide side of the fur in the same way. The trick is to avoid getting glue on the fur. One way would be to tuck the fur under some pieces of duct tape and hold it out of the way of the hide surface to be glued. Let it dry.

Before removing the tape, contact the backing to the hide. Finish both pieces of the hide this way.

There is a top and bottom to the anklet. You can check this by holding the strips both ways, and notice in which direction the fur hangs naturally. Mark the top edge.

Draw a line of glue along the top of edge of each anklet. While still wet, place one the soft leather thong pieces along this edge in the glue, leaving equal amounts of tie ends on each side of the anklet. When the glue dries, sew this thong along the top edge of the anklet using a whipstitch as shown with the Glovers needle and a doubled thread. Complete both in the same way.

When tying these anklets on, one size fits all if you wrap the thong ties around your ankle before tying in a bowknot.



For a number of generations it was common for northern traditional men to wear white goat hair anklets below their ankle bells. In the 1950s they sometimes were made of yarn. Today they can be made of Islandic sheep hide or Tibet lamb.

Materials needed ...

- 2 fur pieces each cut 3 inches by 12 inches on the hide
- 2 scrap leather pieces each cut 3 inches by 12 inches
- 1 (one) 48 inch soft leather thong cut in half
- 1 glovers needle
- size 'F' nylon thread
- 1 tube of contact cement.