

## Leather Gloves

Leather has been a staple material in glove manufacturing for centuries. As a natural material made from animal hides, it is soft and flexible, can be sewn and easily combined with other materials. Leather continues to be a popular choice for general purpose and even more demanding applications because of its excellent abrasion resistance, strength, heat resistance and natural flame resistance.

### Types of Constructions:



- **Split leather palm:** Split leather is sewn to the palm of the glove. The glove's textile or machine knit liner allows hand to breathe and makes for an economical glove for tough and rugged jobs.



- **Double palm:** Two layers of split leather are sewn to the palm area of the glove. Construction provides additional abrasion and thermal protection compared with a single layer of leather.



- **Full leather:** Glove is constructed entirely of leather for protection to the front and back of the hand.



- **Grain leather:** Glove is constructed using top grain leather, providing superior water repellency as compared to split leather.



- **Driver's:** Type of glove that is constructed entirely from grain, split leather, or a combination of the two. Features either shirred or ball and tape to keep the glove snug on the hand at the wrist. Driver's gloves can either be lined or unlined.

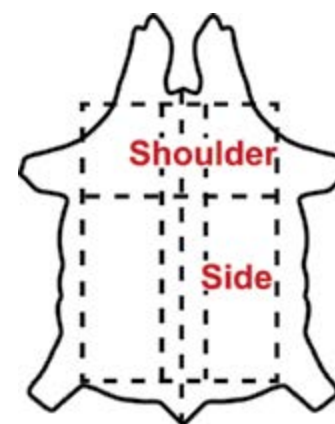
### General Leather Properties:

- High tensile strength
- Abrasion resistant
- Heat resistant
- Resistant to tears and punctures
- Breathes and permeable to water vapor
- Naturally flame retardant

### General Leather Properties:

- **Cowhide:**
  - Most common
  - Durable, abrasion resistant
  - Provides dexterity and is comfortable
  - Disadvantage is that it is not good for wet environments, cowhide becomes stiff when wet
- **Pigskin:**
  - Tough, doesn't dry out like cow
  - More breathable than cow
- **Deerskin**
  - Extremely soft
  - Best choice for dexterity
  - Does not dry out like cow
- **Goatskin:**
  - Both durable and supple
  - Good for dexterity and light-to-medium protective needs
- **Kidskin**
  - Leather from young goat
  - Softer than goatskin and offers greater dexterity.

### Types of Leather:



- **Grain:** It's the outermost external side where the hair used to be. Can be split into two or more usable layers. Top grain side of the hide – best in appearance but typically more expensive. Usually longer lasting than split.
- **Split:** It's the rougher internal side of the hide. Can be further classified depending on where the hide is taken from. A standard material for welding gloves.
- **Side Split:** Taken from the back and side portions of the animal.
- **Shoulder Split:** Taken from shoulder and neck. The hide is less uniform on density and appearance.
- **Belly Split:** Taken from the belly area of the animal. Usually yields the thinnest and least durable leather but the least expensive.

