



NORTHWOODS FALCONRY, LLC

7430 Manzanita Drive NW, Olympia WA 98502

1-800-446-5080 sales@northwoodsfalconry.com

LEATHER CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS Whole and Half Pieces

Leather must be cut per these instructions to minimize stretch and to maximize its superior strength. Bark (or "veg") tanned leather has had most of its natural oils and fats taken out during the tanning process. These oils and fats help lock the skin fibers together giving it strength. It is important for you to put these back into the dry leather to restore its strength. First, cut the pieces you desire (hint: jesses should be cut about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch wider than you desire because they will get narrower when stretched after oiling) then apply a coating of good leather grease such as Lanolin or Jess Grease. Rub this in by hand and then apply heat point blank from an electric hair blower or put them in your oven on a paper towel or newspaper on a metal cookie sheet at 250° F for 20 minutes to allow the leather to soak up the oil (please remain at the oven area during this time for fire safety reasons!). After applying heat, wipe off any excess oil with a cloth or paper towel. While the leather is still warm, stretch it with your hands several times using all of your strength (builds strong fingers and good pecks!). You have now taken most of the strength out and you can proceed to cut it to fit your raptor.

Note: On Half pieces, be sure to cut parallel to the already cut straight edge for less stretch and maximum strength. We use stretchy outer edge areas for anklets since they are normally wider than jesses and not put under the same stress.

Thank you again and give us a call if you have further questions about the leather that you purchased!

