

TIPS SHEET FOR CALCULATING SKIN CONSUMPTION OF YOUR DESIGN

- Estimate the average size of the skins you will be using.
- Draw an area on paper equivalent to the average size of the skin i.e. an English domestic leather skin is 7 sq ft (0.65 sq m) – a rectangle 2 x 3 ½ ft (0.6 x 1 m).
- Lay your pattern pieces on top of the 'skin'.
- Once you've covered the skin with as many pattern pieces as possible, set those pieces aside and lay the remaining pattern pieces on the skin.
- When you've used all of your pattern pieces, add up the total skin area you have used
- Remember that leather/suede skins may have scars, holes, wrinkles, and undesirable blemishes – to allow for these add extra footage to your calculations (10 per cent if you plan to use low-quality skins, 5 per cent if you plan to use high-quality skins).