

# TIPS SHEET ON PURCHASING SKINS

- Try to purchase skins in person.
- When inspecting skins look out for the following:
  - that you are really being shown the skin you requested (make sure you know what a particular skin should look like)
  - if the skin has an obnoxious odour
  - that the nappa, or outside, is the best quality part of the skin (if the nappa has excessive scars, holes or discolorations it is not a very good skin)
  - for tiny holes in the skin (hold the skin up to the light)
- Choose skins with roughly the same weight.
- Make sure that the grain or surface of your skins has continuity.
- Match the colours on all of your skins by laying the skins out, folding them in half and placing them on top of each other with about 15 cm (6 inches) of each skin showing – this will enable you to view all of the skins at a glance.
- Calculate how many skins will be needed for your design and purchase more than that number.
- If you order skins by mail or phone make sure you clearly communicate the type and quality of skins you require.
- Always ask for a sample if a skin has to be substituted.
- Always specify which skin size you want.