In this workshop, participants will learn to bind in quarter or half leather. After sewing a textblock on cloth tapes and lining the spine, the primary focus will be paring leather using an English-style knife and covering in goatskin with marbled paper sides. The use of the Scharf-fix paring machine may be covered as time permits.

Binding instructions:

Make a sewing template and punch holes in sections.

Sew all along on linen tapes with kettle stitches at both ends.

Use a weaver’s knot to tie on more thread.
Round and back the spine.

Add stuck-on paper headbands.

Add an extended lining of heavyweight kozo paper using 50/50 Jade 403v PVA/methyl cellulose mix.

Line the spine with Rives Heavyweight paper (shoulder to shoulder and between the sewing supports) using 50/50 Jade 403v PVA/methyl cellulose mix.

Sand the lining smooth when dry.

Create a 1-on-2-off hollow tube of spine lining of handmade or machine made paper (shoulder to shoulder and head to tail) using 50/50 Jade 403v PVA/methyl cellulose mix.

Cut binders board to size.

Lightly sand the board edges.

Back-corner the boards.

Adhere the boards to the textblock using the extended kozo lining.

Slit the hollow tube and extended lining to accommodate the turn-ins.

Cut the spine leather to size.

Pare the leather with an English paring knife.

Cap the textblock with Mylar and paper to protect it during covering.

Lightly dampen the hair side of the leather.

Paste the flesh side of the leather, allowing it to soak in for a few more minutes. Paste a second time, allowing it to soak in. Scrape off the paste using a scrap of binders board,
and finally apply a thin layer of paste. Paste the spine and boards in the areas to be covered in leather.

Adhere the leather, turn in the leather at head and tail, and form the headcap.

Insert a piece of Bristol board between the boards and the textblock, and allow the leather to dry overnight.

When the leather is dry, pare the turn-ins near the spine.

Add leather corners as desired.

Trim back the leather slightly and apply marbled paper to the sides using wheat starch paste.

Trim out the turn-ins.

Adhere the pastedowns using 50/50 Jade 403v PVA/methyl cellulose mix.

SUPPLIES:

Leather:
French Split Goatskin
Hewit Chieftain goatskin
Siegel Smooth Historical Goatskin
Harmatan Goatskin

Materials used during the workshop (from Talas):
Jade 403 PVA glue
Zen Shofu Wheat Starch Paste
Wheat Paste No. 301
Methyl Cellulose
Mylar 3 mil

Kozo papers used during the workshop (from Hiromi):
HP-02 Usu Mino 16 gm.
HP-62 Okawara 55 gm.
CK Color Kozo 17 gm.

Suppliers:
Hewit: http://www.hewit.com
Talas: http://www.talasonline.com
Hiromi Paper: http://www.hiromipaper.com
Hollanders: https://www.hollanders.com
Leather splitting:
Hohenforst Splitting Co. 518-725-0012
Columbia Organ Works, Inc, 915 Lancaster Avenue, Columbia, PA 17512 800-423-7003

ADHESIVE RECIPES:

Methyl Cellulose:
Mix 14 grams methyl cellulose slowly into 500 ml distilled water at room temperature. Allow to stand for 15 minutes and stir again before using.

Methyl cellulose/PVA Mix:
Mix methyl cellulose as above, and then blend it with PVA in a 50/50 mixture. (This formula may vary: slightly more PVA than methyl cellulose results in the mix being stickier and drying faster. Wheat starch paste may also be used instead of methyl cellulose.)

Wheat starch paste made with AYTEX-P or Zen Shofu:

Large amount of paste:
1. In a glass bowl, mix 45 gm. wheat starch into 100 ml cold distilled water and allow mixture to stand for 30 minutes.
2. Pour 400 ml. boiling water into the mixture, stirring rapidly for 3 minutes.
3. Allow to cool before straining. If you do not have a strainer, paste can be strained through cheesecloth.

Small amount of paste:
1. In a glass bowl, mix four TBS distilled water to one TBS paste powder. Allow to stand for ten minutes.
2. Microwave on high for ten seconds and stir. Repeat until the mixture turns opaque.
3. Allow to cool before straining. If you do not have a strainer, paste can be strained through cheesecloth.

Wheat Paste No. 301 (instant paste) is freeze-dried. Slowly mix the paste powder into room temperature distilled water until it forms the desired consistency.

Resources:


Jeffrey Peachey, “Peachey’s Ten Commandments of Sharpening:”

Jeffrey Peachey, “Tips on Stropping:”
https://jeffpeachey.wordpress.com/2012/09/18/how-to-strop-a-knife/


