

General Information

A unique aspect of our Belting Leather is the ease of installation and the flexibility of a 100% vegetable tanned, aniline dyed leather. The smooth, tight grain texture and flexible characteristic of this leather is achieved with a special blend of mimosa and chestnut. Belting Leather is suitable for vertical applications including walls, curved walls and column wraps. Other applications include desk and table inlays.

Our Belting Leather can easily be maintained with regular dusting and spot cleaning with cool water and a soft cloth or the use of approved Spinneybeck cleaner, conditioner, and protector.

Installation Instructions

Belting Leather needs to acclimate on site for a minimum of one to two weeks. In order to provide adequate conditioning, Belting Leather should be removed from the packaging, allowing the material to breathe and adjust. Shipment of whole hides should be stacked grain side to grain side to protect the surface. Cut pieces should be removed from the packaging and fanned out against the wall vertically. Since Belting Leather is a natural product, there will be expansion and contraction related to environmental changes in temperature and humidity. As a result, it is best for the leather to acclimate in an area with low humidity. A moisture content of 8-9% will lessen the amount of spaces that can occur between the tiles after installation. The moisture content can be measured with a moisture meter to determine if the tiles are ready for installation. Expansion and contraction is considered normal and acceptable for this type of natural product. Care should be taken in opening the packaging to prevent damage to the leather by sharp knives or industrial razor blades. All other construction on the site should be completed before installing the leather so that the installation area is as clean and free of dust as possible.

Belting Leather is a natural product. When installing, randomly select the material to enhance the natural beauty of shading variations.

Adhesives

We recommend a water based contact adhesive available through Spinneybeck at \$60 per gallon. Another option is Weldwood Water Based Contact Adhesive. This brand of adhesive is available at Home Depot or Lowes.

Wall Installations

- **Belting Leather must be installed over 5/8" finished grade plywood for new-build installations and 1/4" multi-ply over existing drywall. Belting Leather will NOT adhere to drywall, gypsum board, or masonite.**
- To install 5/8" plywood, use screws to attach the plywood to the wall studs.
- Fill screw holes, voids and joints with Ardex Feather Finish or an industrial grade plastic wood compound and sand the surface so that it is completely smooth and even.

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- To install multi-ply, apply Roberts #1407 adhesive or Full Spread Liquid Nails to the entire surface of the drywall using a trowel. Apply the multi-ply to the wall. Fasten the multi-ply with 3/4" narrow crown staples to ensure an adequate bond of both materials. Staple the seams 1" apart and 4" on center. Seal seams with Ardex Feather Finish or an industrial grade plastic wood compound and sand smooth.
- A water-based stain should be applied to the plywood or multi-ply substrate to match the existing color of the Belting Leather. If an exact match cannot be established, it is best to go darker in color than lighter. Staining the plywood helps to conceal minor gaps that can develop from expansion and contraction associated with natural products such as Belting Leather.
- To ensure adequate adhesion, thoroughly mix the waterbased adhesive and apply the first coat to the entire surface of the back side of the Belting Leather with a paint brush. A roller can be used to apply the adhesive to the plywood on the wall. Once again, make sure the surfaces of both materials are covered.
- The first coat of adhesive acts as a primer for the wall and for the Belting Leather. Allow the adhesive to completely soak into the back of the leather and the plywood. The adhesive will turn from milky white to clear when it is cured. The first coat must cure completely before the second coat is applied. Cure time is usually thirty minutes or less.
- Apply a second coat of adhesive in the same manner as above. Again, use a paint brush to apply the second coat of adhesive to the back of the Belting Leather. Apply the second coat to the wood substrate on the walls using a roller as directed. Both applications must cover the entire surface of the Belting Leather and the wall as previously outlined. Allow the second coat of adhesive to cure thoroughly. **The second application of adhesive is mandatory in order for the Belting Leather to adhere properly to the substrate. If this step is omitted the Belting Leather will become loose and lift up from the substrate.**
- Using rollers from Everhard (or similar product), roll over the entire surface of the Belting Leather to ensure proper adhesion. Apply additional pressure to corners, points and seams. Use 1-1/2" or 2" wide rollers. It will be necessary to use a ladder to reach the top portion of the wall to ensure enough force is applied to properly roll the upper surface of the Belting Leather.
- Belting Leather can be cut on site with a straight edge and a utility blade.

(continued)

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Care and Maintenance

Frequently vacuum the Belting Leather to remove dust buildup. Occasional conditioning with Spinneybeck Leather Cleaner, Conditioner, and Protector is recommended. Never use leather cleaners such as saddle soaps, household cleaners such as Murphy's Oil Soap, cleaners that contain harsh chemicals or alcohol, or ink removers on the Belting Leather.

Resources

Spinneybeck Water Based Contact Adhesive: Available through Spinneybeck

Weldwood Water Based Contact Adhesive: Available at Home Depot or Lowes

Roberts #1407: Available at Home Depot or Lowes

Everhard: www.everhard.com

ARDEX: www.ardex.com

Manufactures self-leveling
underlayment concrete
Phone: (724) 203-5000
Email: info@ardex.com

Leather Specifications

Style:	Belting Leather (BL)
Content:	Full grain, aniline dyed leather
Thickness:	2.8–3.2 mm
Weight:	7.0–8.0 oz. per sq. ft.
Average Hide Size:	18–20 sq. ft.
Finish:	Aqueous-based water repellent finish

Performance Characteristics**Test**

Light Fastness (AATCC Method 16, Option E, 72 Hours)	Class 2-3
Crocking (ASTM D-5053):	Dry: Class 4-5 Wet: Class 4
Breaking Force (ASTM D-2208):	500+ lbs.
Elongation (ASTM D-2211):	0% - 10%

Flammability

Passes the following flammability tests

California Technical Bulletin 117	Complies
Boston Fire Dept. BFD IX-1	Complies

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