



## Handicraft

A sporran is a small pouch commonly made of leather or fur and worn on a belt or strap in front of a kilt — a traditional part of the male Scottish Highland dress.

For this handicraft, we will create a simplified sporran out of leather. Because leather can be a bit difficult to work with, we recommend this project for older kids and teens.

However, to simplify it for younger kids, substitute felt or craft foam for the leather, and embroidery floss for leather thread. (No need to punch holes in them.)

*"I've filled him with the Spirit of God, giving him skill and know-how and expertise in every kind of craft to create designs ... he's an all-around craftsman."*

~ Exodus 31:3-5

Handicraft Lesson

# Leather Sporrán

## Supplies

- Scrap leather or small pack from craft store
- Waxed leather thread
- Embroidery floss
- Embroidery needle
- Button or bead
- Velcro dot
- Scissors
- Optional for leather only: leather hole punch tool OR awl, mallet, and self-healing mat
- Template

## Directions

1. Cut out the sporran template and draw around the three shapes onto your piece of leather or felt using a pen or pencil.
2. Cut out the shapes from the leather or felt, and using the template as a guide, mark the holes around the edges.
3. For leather only: Use the leather hole punch (or mallet and awl) to punch the holes around both the front and back pieces, as well as the belt loop.
4. Lay the belt loop on top of the back section of the sporran, making sure to line up the marked or punched holes and sew together.





5. Leaving a 1.5-inch tail at the beginning, sew the belt loop onto the back section of the sporran. Repeat so the top of the belt loop is held in place by 2 neat stitches. Take your thread straight down to the hole below and secure the bottom of your belt loop in the same way. When you have finished, leave a 1.5-inch tail and snip off the excess thread. Tie your tails together to secure your stitches. (This knot will be on the inside of your sporran.)



6. Place the back section of the sporran on a table with the belt loop facing down.

7. Tie a knot at the end of your thread, then lay the front section of your sporran on top of the back section. If you have pre-punched your holes, make sure they line up. Use a running stitch to sew both layers together.

8. Make the tassel by wrapping the embroidery thread around four of your fingers about 8 times. Slide the thread off your fingers. Tie a piece of thread about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch from one end to form the top of your tassel. Trim the loops at the bottom.



9. Stitch the tassel and the button (or bead) to the top of the "flap" (the back layer folded over the front) of your sporran.

10. Attach the velcro dot to the underside of the flap and the top piece so that they close securely.

11. Thread a belt through the belt loop and wear your sporran over your jeans, dress, or kilt!

