**Skiving Leather by Hand**

**Skiving:** Slicing or Cutting at an Angle on the Edge of a Piece of Leather to Reduce the Thickness.

Having a Razor Sharp Edge on Your Knife is the **ESSENTIAL** First Step for Skiving Leather.

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**Knife Blade at Angle for Slicing Off Edge of the Leather**

**Leather Laying Flat on Granite Slab**

**NOTE:**
Suede Side Up
Top Grain Down

**Side View:**
.. Leather on Granite Slab
.. Positioning the Knife Blade Edge on Leather
.. Tip of Knife Touching Granite Slab

**Granite Slab 1.5 Inch Thick**
(38mm)

Granite or Glass makes the best surface for Skiving. A thinner piece will work, but it will be more fragile and may crack.

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**Wider Skive**

**Medium Skive**

**Narrower Skive**

**Low Angle of Knife**
Wider Skive

**Medium Angle of Knife**
Medium Skive

**High Angle of Knife**
Narrower Skive

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**Right Hand:** Holding the Knife and Guiding to Control Angle and Depth of Cut.

**Left Hand:** Index Finger Pushing Knife Smoothly, Other Fingers Hold Leather In Place.
Skiving Leather by Hand

Tips for Skiving
Skiving or Beveling the Edge of Leather Requires EXTREMELY Sharp Knife
Granite Slab or Glass Works Best for a Hard Smooth Cutting Surface
Always Skive On the Flesh Side of the Leather Place the Leather with the Top Grain Down
You Can Make Multiple Passes for Wider Skive

Hold the Knife at a Steady Angle and PUSH or DRAW Along the Edge of the Leather... Slicing Off the Edge.

1. Position Edge of Knife Parallel to Edge of Leather
2. Rotate Edge of Knife Slightly Start Cutting the Leather at Angle
3. Continue Cutting with Steady Movement and Even Pressure
4. Use Index Finger of Other Hand to Push Knife Blade with Smooth Motion

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