

FIG 1

FIG 2

B EADED ELT UCKLES

1021

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In the last 3 - 4 years the Beaded Belt Buckle has become the fashionable buckle to wear at pow wows from Crow Fair to Oklahoma. The variety of patterns are endless and the construction technique is simple. Some beaded belt buckles sell for as much as fifty dollars.

Materials

To make a beaded belt buckle you will need a metal belt buckle blank (available at Tandy leather shops), seed beads of any size, canvas to bead on and buckskin backing.

Construction

The beadwork style is the overlay stitch as explained in Moccasin Tracks craft series #1018. Designs vary from geometric designs to teepees and eagles. On canvas, trace around the outside edge of the metal buckle blank. Draw another line 1/8 " inside the border line, Fig.1. Now, stretch out canvas on frame or embroidery hoop and stitch down a row or two on the 1/8" border line. The remainder of the design is then filled in. The Background rows are either vertical or horizontal.

After the beadwork is completed, cut canvas backing as shown in Fig. 2. Sew the backing over the buckle blank, top and bottom flaps, and left and right flaps as shown in Fig.3. Now, tack down the three tails at each corner down with a running stitch as in Fig. 4.

Cut out a leather backing providing a hole for the prong and a slit for the belt ring. Place a thin coat of white glue on the leather and place it on the back of the buckle blank. Whip stitch the edge of the leather to the canvas backing of the beadwork. Fig. 5. The edge of the buckle is beaded to finish the buckle. As shown in Fig. 6, this 3 - 5 bead edging is sewn on with a whip stitch catching the leather backing. As an end result the seam that joins the leather and canvas is not seen. Buckle should now look like the cover photo.

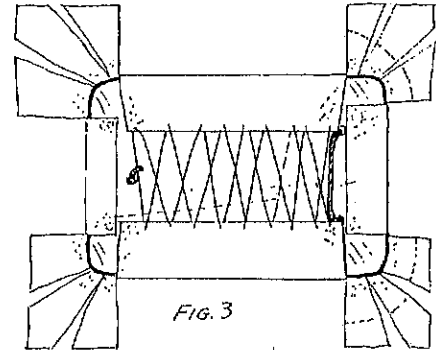


FIG. 3

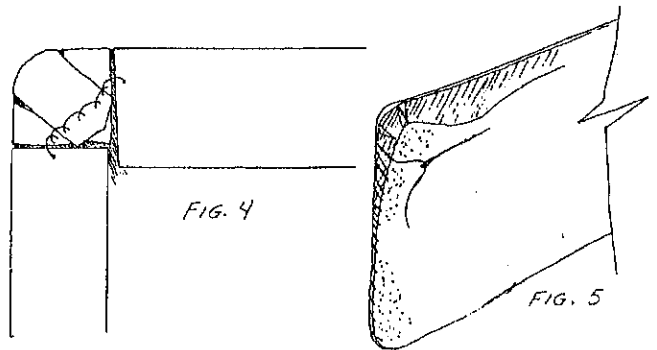


FIG. 4

FIG. 5

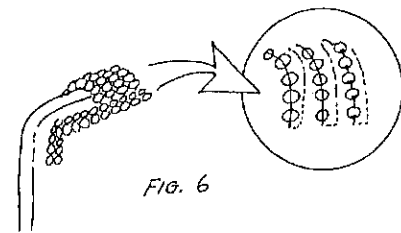


FIG. 6

