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leather, chaps, people, harnesses, pair, shop, boots, generally, vest, wear, work, sides, called, person, buy, lining, items, bit, rawhide, big

00:03

To do shapes in different types of harnesses and cut out tops and things, but make do with a knife and scissors. Yeah,

00:12

well, that works. The old fashioned.

00:14

Tell me about the sewing machine. I, I know it can't be just your regular run of the mill singer.

00:23

And no, it isn't a run of the mill singer. I use a faff model 545 It's an industrial machine with a walking foot. So it actually walks the leather through rather than pulling it. And those machines have if you have something with a lining in it and try to sew the lining, they just tear it all to pieces. But I'm usually a lead foot on the sewing machine. It's a lot of fun. Different things like that. Machine. Yeah, break lots and lots of needles.

00:56

Which also must be heavy duty. Yeah, they

00:58

are very thick needles that had one shatter and hit me between the eyes. That's not good. Yeah, the manager at that point bought me a pair of safety gloves. Safety glasses. No, I'm not wearing these.



01:12

But you're careful. You're careful in your work, I'm sure.



01:14

Oh, yes. I'm very careful. And the way I look at it. If if the end of my days is supposed to be a sewing machine needle that hits me in the head, I can deal with that.



01:25

Just kind of watch out for that because I work a lot around heavy equipment and you need to be safety conscious.



01:32

Oh, yes. Oh, yes.



01:34

All right. Well, I guess Jimmy, let's take just a quick break and then we'll get into we'll talk about leather goods.



01:42

Okay, I've got a piece of music here from Paul Lockwood from his CD positive. And I'm gonna play the title cut followed by Mark Weigel, who has well known over these airwaves. And this is from his brand new album called Ain't met. Ain't that all that matters? I'm sorry. And he's doing a duet with Sonia from this disappear fear called other houses. And you're hearing all of this on after hours queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station, and we'll be right back



02:30

Oh, yes, that was Mark Weigel. But it wasn't the song. I told you. I was gonna play it. That was a good day, of course, from his album, all that matters. And I thought Lila I liked that song too. So good. Keep



02:42

us on our toes. Let's do that. Yeah,



02:45

I need somebody to keep me on my toes. It's 230 in the morning for God. I know it. I know it. And this is after hours. I'm Jimmy Carper. And Jim salkini is here with Henry. Harry. Oh, god,



02:58

that's okay. But he goes by that's probably your original name, right?



03:02

No, my original name is Harold has weird. Well, I



03:05

try. That's my specialty. Harry Thompson of leather by boots is here. And thank you for being here. Oh, no. We were talking a little bit earlier about different types of leather items. Can you kind of describe the type and quantity of leather items that you handle, say in a day or another day, but just generally,



03:29

generally, depends on the season around Christmas time. I've done as much as like 10 pairs of pants a week. Sometimes 30 vests, just around Christmas time and like Louis weekend.



03:48

Oh, yeah.



03:51

I need this done.



03:52

I've been times that I've done 100 harnesses in a day. For different people. It's just frightening but exciting. And just just a big party.



04:03

I learned though and you never say no. It's incredible. I've never heard you say no, like, I need

to stand tomorrow and you say, okay, and you'll you'll?



04:14

Yeah, I've always had luck on my side.



04:18

That's good. Okay, let's talk about the variety of leather goods. A lot of people have heard of some of these, but let's talk about like, for instance, vests. Some of the leather items that you work with, do you make those a lot you have certain patterns? How do you do that?



04:36

We do have certain patterns that we work with for the bar vests which are open front, and we have just the standard bar vest, which is all seems as like the one you're wearing no pockets. I don't have a pocket. Oh, gotta have pockets. And we also do them with the rawhide lacing in the sides. We do them with chain in the sides. And I've also done The few with the steel rings in the sides are sort of flashy and look better on younger people, but then they do really well.



05:09

So you're saying I should not get one of those?



05:12

No, I'm not saying that. For the younger, more trendy people, I should say, Okay,



05:21

well, that's kind of nice. I've seen David who used to do work in chains strictly and chain.



05:28

Yeah, he said, Don done a lot of work with aluminum chainmail. And I've seen some fabulous, fabulous work out of him. harnesses. I've seen him do hoods, shirts of VASTS. Just different jewelry with skulls on them. And it's just a really amazing work.



05:48

So you don't really work a lot with a chain and in steel, other than just like side panels and



05:53

things. Actually, we do a lot of body harnesses out of chain like a single, single row, two rows of chain side by side or three rows. And if a if the person is big enough, I've done four rows of chain. But that takes a really big man to carry off. Okay, yeah, but that could be done. And I've also done some jock straps in chain. It's a little more difficult to do to get a pouch to work right,



06:22

boy, I'll bet



06:25

a little painful if you're not careful.



06:27

No kidding. Yeah,



06:29

I pull hair full here.



06:32

And you do chaps?



06:33

Oh yes, we do. The same styles of chaps that we've meant. As the vast there's a standard standard pair of stovepipe chaps with just the plain seams down down the outsides with the zippers on the inside. We also do them with the rawhide lacing and with the change with the rings. And I've also adapted that pattern to be used on motorcycles and and have done all of the Western chaps which have the buckles on the back of the legs and have done a lot of started doing a lot of chaps for a dancers



07:14

you're talking about earlier. The old style original motorcycle chaps what are what are the differences from chaps that are kind of



07:24

made today. The motorcycle chaps they're still being made. They're made to ride a little bit lower so that you can have room to get on and off a bike. They're made to fit looser. And the majority of the time they're made out of separate pieces that are different shapes and put together and I made the mistake of trying to alter one pair took them apart and size them down and could not get them back together.



07:53

They never did quite line up right



07:55

and not to separate pieces. They just don't work that way.



07:59

Okay. What do you do in a case like that?



08:03

I had to had to buy the person a new pair of chaps.



08:06

Yeah, so you learned on that one?



08:09

I learned the hard way. Yeah. But you know, from all that you've been talking about it it sounds like it's not like you make the same thing all the time. There's some creativity that goes on here.



08:22

There is quite a bit the way I go with about the creativity is with the different person and the personality look at the person and get a feel for what they're doing and what they're about and design something for that person from from those from those points. And that seems to work really well that way.



08:46

And there's different types of leather right that you work with for like the chaps



08:52

Yes, with the chaps we like to use something a little bit heavier. something sturdy and doesn't stretch very much. A lot of times people tend to be on their knees and bending in different places and a lighter weight leathers going to stretch out and end up with bubbles on the front's of their legs which doesn't look good at all. Shirts, you want to use something very lightweight and very supple and fast something sturdy but in somewhere in between.



09:21

Your I went in your shop a few weeks ago and saw a different type of leather that that you were working with Can you explain about that it was like a layered type of leather.



09:35

We do have access to a perforated leather and it's like the the mesh tank tops that you find in sporting goods stores. And I haven't really worked with that yet. I do have a good sample and it comes in black, blue, white and red. And I've been interested in waiting, getting someone in to order a tank top A pair of shorts. Because it breathes a yes. Normally leather breeze anyway, but this just be like having air conditioned shoes. The good old ones that have the holes in the sides. That would be interesting.



10:13

Sounds like something that would be very popular for bride day.



10:19

Yeah, Pride Day and more trendy bar where?



10:23

Yeah, right. Yeah.



10:25

Okay, so and also you make manufacture harnesses things like that. Oh, yeah. What are some of your harnesses that are product good sellers.



10:35

Why harness it's basically like a Y shape on the front end back with it with a buckling of buckle in the front and back that goes in between the legs that has a has a ring that goes around the penis and testicles.



10:53

Yes, thank you for I'm used



10:55

to using other words for that.



10:58

Like ticking balls. That'll work.



11:01

Actually, it's another C word.



11:04

Okay, either we got the point.



11:07

Okay. That one's a real good seller. And there's also wanted to full profile harness. It has the basic y in the front, and also has straps that go over the shoulders and under the armpits. And it has the cheek straps like a jock. And it's a very good play harness. That leaves body parts open for exploration and



11:34

and it works really well on slender people. So if you want one, come get it. All right.



11:41

Now, do you have patterns for these? Or did someone say, Harry, I want this and you'll design it up? How do you do



11:47

it? It works both ways. We have patterns that we can do a specific harness for people. We have something like 34 Different harnesses in our catalog. And then if somebody wants something different, just look at the person, look at the personality, and see where they go with with themselves and design something from that.



12:09

Because a lot of people may not, you know, like they'll try something on maybe give a prototype. And they may not feel comfortable in it. Or they may not look good in it.



12:20

Yeah. And I've changed different things on harnesses for different people. I don't believe in selling something to someone that either they're going to feel uncomfortable with or if I don't think it looks quite right. I won't sell it to them.



12:35

Okay. Can you walk through our listening audience with what would be a typical fitting for like, say, chaps, what problems do you see?



12:46

Oh, with chaps have the biggest problem with a fitting is the fact that you have to put the legs together and put the zipper on on the legs of the chaps. And to do the fitting you have to put them on the person inside out. And that's a little hard to Suprun. Yeah, yeah. Using the zipper tab on the inside is a little bit difficult. But with people who have a thighs that are different sizes. I know usually the dominant hand that thighs a little bigger than the other. But there are some people who have difference of two and three inches. And when you have for policy and different spinal conditions and what have you. And you have to mark that as legs and then take your mat take all your marks and switch legs. Because it'd be backwards. Yeah, yeah. Because you ended up getting the wrong leg the wrong size. Oops. Yeah. And that's, that's the biggest problem I've seen with chat fittings, that and getting people to stand still.



13:50

To come in. Yeah, for your fitting, right.



13:54

Oh, yeah, I run into that all the time.



13:57

So make your appointment and stick to it. So how do you get all your leather? How do you get the leather for your items?



14:04

We order in bulk? from Napa, California we get some out of Chicago out of Ontario and out of the Boston area.



14:15

Okay, is it I mean, how do you know how much you need to buy? I mean, this is B, I can't imagine like I need like it comes in. I know rolls for the hides to



14:27

it comes in, we can get full hide so which is basically the whole cow sliced and as there are backs sides and different parts of cow or whatever, whatever particular animal hide you're using. Generally, each garment takes a specific number of square feet and the size of the person and sometimes you have to order a bigger hide order to heights to be able to get the the inseam or this thigh size or to be able to get time around the chest or waist of the individual.



15:03

So you work that out where you try not to waste a lot from that one. So you've worked with this enough, you know, like if you can do this certain thing that have just a little bit leftover and not a lot. Yeah, generally. And then probably what you do have leftover you make into wristbands and things like that.



15:20

Yeah, we do wristbands, armbands of bracelets, for lack of a different word. And we also do harnesses for women. And the smallest pieces, even down to rose petals, we generally try to use everything.



15:41

I bet it's kind of neat. Seeing more women, like we talked about earlier coming in for you to fit those different leather items for women. I bet there's some different things you have to worry

about.



15:54

Yeah, there. Women with large breasts of people who have implants are really easy to work with. But I find working with women and making items for them really exciting. I've gotten to know a lot of people that way. And I never have been one to say women do. So. We're an equal opportunity leather shop when we enjoy the women as well as the men.



16:21

And that's important. And you know, women spend just like men do too.



16:24

Oh, that's true.



16:27

Okay. Do you go on like buying trips? Or how do you do this? How do you get letter? Or is this



16:34

usually just just make a phone call?



16:38

Okay, so you just, you know, your supplier. So you say, hey, I need so and so. And



16:43

yeah, just a certain square footage of a certain type of leather. And no center brands. Very simple and get very specific with what to order. And if it isn't right, I send it back.



16:56

Good. I was wondering about that. Because a lot of times, it's kind of funny when you get the cow hides. You can see it where they actually like the cow will have his brand on there. From



17:09

barbed wire. You know, you have brands of scratches, even bug bites. Really? Yeah. So that's all things you have to work around. So I usually get very specific with what I want to order.

17:24

So we have big mosquitos down here in Texas.

17:27

Oh yeah, there's the six foot ones.

17:31

What items or item would you recommend for someone who's just new getting into leather?

17:37

Actually a nice pair of black boots and a black belt. And after that, maybe a pair of armbands and rawhide lace tied into a hangman's noose to go around the neck.

17:50

Okay, so a lot you would recommend like right off the bat, putting them in a pair of chaps or something?

17:56

No, not right at first. I know the way with old school leather Old Guard leather. chaps and vests were earned.

18:06

Exactly. Yeah. But let's talk about that a little bit. Do you have people that that like to stick to that? Or?

18:14

Yes, we still do have people who like to stick with old guard leather values and protocol.

18:19

What do you mean by earn? A vast are chaps

18:24

basically to prove to prove oneself worthy? Through through like a master slave or a daddy boy relationship? Oh, whether the master slave or mistress slave or, and I know a lot of lot of women call themselves daddy. And and I get really tickled at that but more power to them. But yeah, with the slave or the or the submissive has to earn basically brownie points.

18:57

Wow. No, I had no idea. Yeah.

19:00

And that hence that's the that's the old guard and the new guard is you just buy it unfortunately. Yeah, the new guard is you just you just buy it and wear it and and that takes away a lot of the love the pride of having some of the leather goods.

19:16

And a lot I think did not used to be somewhat passed down.

19:20

Yeah, a lot of a lot of leather used to be passed down from one person to the next.

19:25

Okay, you talked about handling boots and belt for someone who's getting into leather. Do you handle those?

19:31

Now we do have belts, we make them. We can do them with studs. So we've even done one with little lizards on it was sort of fun. And we do not carry boots at this point.

19:43

Okay, well, those can be kind of tricky, I'm sure different styles and sizes. Yeah.



19:49

And you have to carry a large stock to be able to supply for everybody. So we have our regular regular other other shops that we send people to okay



19:59

for those Let's talk about like leather care and conditioning. That's a question down here. You know, I'm wearing leather tonight. It gets awfully hot here in Houston. And that's an understatement. What do you recommend as far as the amount of cleaning and how often and what should you use?



20:19

Okay, leather boots we recommend a Lexile cleaner is which is it comes in an orange bottle. And Alexa conditioner comes in a brown bottle. And there's also a Neatsfoot needs for the white bottle. Yeah, it's a beige bottle with green letters on it that you're going to have more waterproofing properties and more than more so than the regular Lexol conditioner. Not in Houston weather. Usually when you go out in leather, you sweat like crazy. And stretch of snow. What happens is as the leather will form to your body to start with, but after that it can it can once you get the leather damp and hang it up or put it in the closet somewhere. That moisture can allow different little critters, bacteria, mildew, and different things to get onto that leather. And what and then it starts to dry out and it can dry it can crack over after a period of time. So especially here we recommend giving every item you have a good conditioning like once a month at least



21:34

All right. And that's not always done and you probably see that a lot too.



21:38

Yeah, I've seen a lot of crispy chaps



21:43

almost sounds like a breakfast meal. Breakfast a Leatherman is great. That was a good one. I like that. What other common problems do you see a lot like if the leather doesn't fit and things like is how can I say this gracefully is as men age they their bodies tend to change proportions. Somewhat.



22:14

Generally, like on a vest we can open the sides up on the vest and add lacing or chains. And something I've started doing lately is actually adding a panel in between that allows the vest to expand with the person and refit the shoulder so that most of the time when the body does change the the angle, the pitch angle of its shoulders change too. So by adding lacing or a panel into the vest, go ahead and refit the shoulders so that the vest will hang in the front like it should.



22:50

Okay, so you do that, like if you're doing something new, a lot of times if they're bringing something in that they bought somewhere else, you'll probably take a look at it and see if it can be done.



23:01

Yeah, generally we do take a look to see if it can be done. I know like I mentioned earlier products with a lining and we have a real problem with because our machines tend to tear the linings up. Now with pants a lot of times we recommend pulling the lining out but and it makes me that way you have the leather up against your skin rather than a piece of nylon



23:25

down here I think I'd get off a hot aligning in the leather.



23:30

The lining tends to stick to your skin.



23:33

Okay, kind of like like the rubber type suits and things.



23:39

Yeah, it'd be very much like that. And it would make you sweat like crazy. Do you handle those rubber boots and things we did in the past of latex? Yeah, we carried a lot of latex before it became popular. And we finally sold it all and never did order anymore and then people started coming



23:58

asking for it. Okay, so I found it was pretty hot a few years ago but I think it's dying off again a little bit



24:06

it is dying off a little bit of mostly in Europe, places like New York, San Francisco and Chicago latex is still very big. But in in the climate we have here. There are some of those diehard people who have to have their latex and neoprene but for the most part it doesn't do that. Well.



24:27

Okay. You know, we talked about using climate being so hot. What items do you think can be comfortably worn here?



24:35

shorts, tank tops with a pair of boots and baseball caps. They're just different types of sleeveless shirts. I know we do a lot of the sleeveless police shirts and police style shirts like the Levi jackets and we leave the sleeves off of those and they work very well to Gauntlet gauntlet armbands I mean, there's just numerous things. Okay? Because,



25:02

you know, we can't always say were the chaps because it does get pretty hot for that. I like my leather coat. Boy, you don't wear that until really February.



25:12

Two or three times one



25:13

day.



25:14

Yeah.



25:17

Well tell us something that you're doing at the shop I think you have you're working on a new web address.



25:23

Yes, www dot leather buy boots.com



25:28

That's one word right



25:28

and one word lowercase.



25:31

Okay, give me that again, because I'm writing it down at WWW



25:34

dot leather buy boots one word.com. At this point, we have a cover page app and then the link to our Dallas shop. I'm still working on photography for to get everything else going. We will be having online ordering. And, and email, email access to the shop if you have any questions and we'll either be able to email the order form to people, or we'll have the order form right on right on the site.



26:07

Okay, and again, your shop is located where



26:10

and we have the one domain shop at 1403. Fairview Street at the corner of wall drive. Our telephone number is 713-526-2668 or five to six boot. Have a shop at 715 Fairview inside the rip cord.



26:29

That's open watch from 8pm to closing.



26:31

Uh, yeah. Generally the main shop is open from noon to eight and then the rip cord shop opens at eight o'clock until the bar closes. The number there 713-526-0111. Any questions? Give us a

at eight o'clock until the bar closes. The number there 713-520-0444. Any questions? Give us a call stop by education is 90% of our job.



26:50

And tell them you heard it on KPFT when they when they come talk to you say I heard John KPFT.



26:57

All right. All right.



26:59

even hear the comments. I'd like to thank you for being here tonight.



27:03

Oh, you're quite welcome.



27:04

I've learned a lot. Actually. I'm not really into leather, but I like to keep up on everybody in my community. And really the best thing I had no idea. So I won't wear wear mine anymore. But But I mean, just all kinds of stuff. I really enjoyed this. Thank you for being



27:24

here. You're quite welcome. I've had had a good time.



27:27

Thanks. And thank you, Jimmy. Just want to bring up real quick. I was talking to Dougie Decker and coming up and in October.



27:38

Always good old Dougie. Daddy's doing good. Yeah, I've got the magazine.



27:44

October 14 and 15th. He's having a contest. And I think it's important for us to know about I'll talk about it more a little bit later. That's the Mr. Lone Star drummer contest and drummer boy 2001 Is this October 14, or 15th? At Mary so I'll talk about that a little bit more next month.

28:02

Okay. We'll talk about that. Yeah, I'm looking forward to thank you for being here.

28:06

Thank you very much. Yeah.

28:07

You've been listening to after hours queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station coming up in about four minutes is early morning groove and Rob love and the governor Good grief is here and I don't know how you got to be a governor. I thought you had to be mayor first. Whatever. He just he just started in the background. You're hearing new music by Tori fix called not responsible. So tune in next week. We'll be here at midnight and have some fun. Now my favorite favorite music show is on so