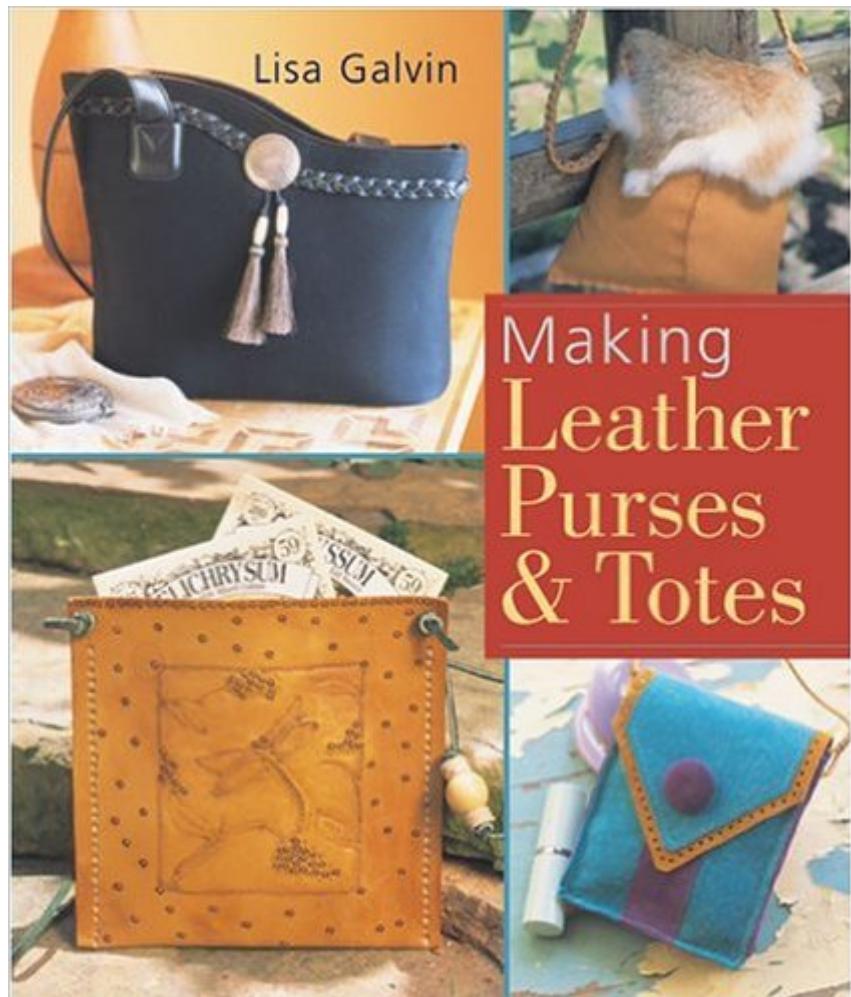


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# Making Leather Purses & Totes



## **Synopsis**

From casual totes to stylish clutches, this compilation offers an irresistible assortment of chic leather projects. The simplicity of the techniques adds to its appeal; a novice can easily make each bag, using basic sewing, braiding, and tooling skills. Photos of the purses in each phase of construction, as well images of the finished items, provide guidance and inspiration on working with this supple and durable material. Discover a variety of ways to tool, brand, punch, cut, stitch, glue, and embellish leather, and see how to add hardware, such as clasps and latches. Anyone would feel proud to show off the fringed Cell Phone Bag, Suede Hip Purse, Alligator Grain Cowhide Handbag, and Travel Tote with Stamp-and-Tooled Personalized Accent. A Selection of the Crafters Choice Book Club.

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 starsÂ  [See all reviewsÂ  \(9 customer reviews\)](#)

Best Sellers Rank: #559,253 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 inÂ  Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Needlecrafts & Textile Crafts > Leathercrafts #835 inÂ  Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Needlecrafts & Textile Crafts > Fashion #940 inÂ  Books > Arts & Photography > Fashion

## **Customer Reviews**

This book is beautifully done, but suffers from the problems I've seen in other books on leather bags. The actual leather bag patterns are too small to be practical for use. Many of the bags as shown appeal only to young girls playing dress up. This is not to say that they couldn't be made tasteful, if still undersized. A few of the projects, surprisingly, are only accented by leather and are otherwise store bought bags. There are some good ideas in this book, but not enough to justify the price for the already accomplished leatherworker. I don't recommend it, and would have returned it if the shipping both ways would not have exceeded the cost of the book.

If you're new to leather crafting, this book has a very nice section on tools and materials. There are quality photos, and good descriptions for the tools and their uses. However many of the actual projects disappointed me. I was particularly interested in having a pattern for the curve topped bag on the cover, but to my surprise, the materials needed for this project included "a curve topped bag" along with some trim. It's about sticking some embellishments onto a bag you've purchased, rather than actually making it. If I were interested simply buying a bag, I would have spent my money on that, rather than this book. In any case, the title is misleading. If it were entirely honest, it would be something along the lines of "Crafts Involving Leather, and Leather Bags." Despite my disappointment, the book itself is good quality, with well laid-out instructions. However, it is misleading if, like me, you're hoping to find a lot of new patterns for actual bags. If you're interested in some simple leather pouches and adding some embellishments to bags you already have, I imagine this would be a really helpful resource. If you're interested in actual patterns, I recommend checking elsewhere.

The projects are doable and I enjoyed that they are challenging enough that when completed, there was a lot of satisfaction in the accomplishment. The various skills I acquired are transferable to projects I design. This is a very handy book to have in your design library.

Leather is much different to work with than other materials....not more difficult, just different. I am on a quest to figure it all out (not able to find classes on the subject) so this book has added to the learning experience. Easy to follow directions....styles a little dated, but the basics don't change.

This book was lacking details on construction. It basically seemed like the author just put a few photos of pretty bags and left the details out. Not worth the time it took to order the book.

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