



Instructions for DIY Medicine Bag Kit

To begin assembling your medicine bag, you need a needle, wooden bead, thread, and a pair of scissors. The first step is to attach the bead that will act as your bag fastener.

1. After threading needle, tie a knot large enough that it will not pass through the leather with the needle. We recommend tying the knot at least four or five times and leave about an inch or two of thread "tail" after the knot.
2. Using the guide dot as a marker (there should already be a small hole here), push the needle from the inside (suede) to the outside (leather).
3. With your needle and thread now on the front side of the pouch, thread the needle through the bead, and then back through the hole in the leather.



4. **Make a small new hole next to the original hole**, and thread the needle through to the front of the medicine bag again. This time, instead of threading the needle back through the hole, wrap the thread several times around all the threads coming through the leather from underneath the bead. This will tighten the bead and raise it up away from the leather. Then put the needle back through the first hole.



5. Repeat step 4 to secure the bead. Then, on the back (suede) side, use the extra “tail” thread to tie the ends together. Trim off any excess thread.



6. Now it is time to lace together your medicine bag. For this you will need your scissors, the needle, and your leather strapping. Cut each end of the strapping into a point small enough that the end will fit into the eye of the needle. The strapping does not need to go all the way through the needle, but it will need to go far enough in that it will fit snugly onto the strapping while you thread it onto the medicine bag.



7. Fold your medicine bag so that the holes line up and your bead fastener is facing towards you. Then, take one end of your strapping and thread it through the top two holes on one side, making sure to thread from back to front.
8. After doing this, put the strap around your neck to measure the ideal length of your medicine bag strap. Once you have decided where you want your pouch to hang, thread the other end of the strapping into the two holes on the top of the opposite side of the pouch.
9. Adjust the strapping so that the ends are of equal length. Then tie the neck strap into a loose knot to keep it in place while you work.



10. Threading from back to front, thread one end of your leather strapping through the lined-up holes on one side of the pouch. Be careful when doing so, as pulling too hard on the leather can occasionally cause it to snap. When pulling the leather through, make sure that it is snug, but not too tight that it deforms the medicine bag. We usually lace this with the suede side facing down for a cleaner look, but the way the lace faces is up to you.



11. Once you reach the end, tie a tight knot at the end to secure that side of the medicine bag. Repeat this same process on the other side.



12. After both ends are tied, you may trim the ends to your desired length.

13. To fasten your medicine bag, push one end of the bead through the hole on the front flap of the bag. The hole may be tight, so do this gently at first until it stretches out. Once all the way through, the bead may be askew, but it is easily adjusted.



14. Untie the knot you made in your neck strap and you're done!

