



WALSALL LEATHER SKILLS CENTRE

ASTRIDE SADDLE CONSTRUCTION

Days 1 & 2

Lecture on principles and techniques involved in straining a saddle tree.
Checking the tree for symmetry, correcting imperfections & adjusting for asymmetry
Choosing webs, webbing up and straining.
Preparing, making and fitting bellies
Preparing the foam and attaching the foam seats. Rasping to shape.
Selecting and wet blocking leather over seat
Seaming done off site by machinist

Day 3 Preparing skirts

Mark out skirt onto blocked seat
Cut out marked seat and get ready for machining backs and pulldowns onto skirt
Choose welts and cut
Present all parts for machine seaming
These will go to be machined

Days 4-7

Prepare saddle parts,
Flaps, Flap Loops, Knee pads, Flexible points, Bar hole covers, Billets, Facings & Fore piece
Ready for machining

Days 8-10

Rub seaming out
Attach flexible Points to tree
Pull seaming on to the tree
Attach flaps, Fore piece, Bar hole covers, Billets and Gullet lining

Day 11

Prepare all panel parts i.e. Panel top, Linings, Tabs, Facings, Sweat flaps,
Ready for machining.

Days 12 & 13

Case stitch facings of panel
Turn panel, bone out panel and mash flat
Glueing and attaching sweat flaps
Attach knee blocks
Present for Machining

Days 14 & 15

Run up panel
Stuff (flock) panels with wool
Attach panel to underside of completed saddle top and flaps
Checking and finishing.