



WALSALL LEATHER SKILLS CENTRE

SADDLE REPAIRS & FLOCKING

These workshops will interest Saddle Fitters who want to acquire the knowledge and skills to carry out simple repairs and flocking adjustments.

COURSE CONTENT (2 days)

Lecture on saddle construction, different types of panel and how they are laced in.

Assessing the saddle for manufacturing faults

Checking the tree for any damage.

Determining if a saddle is worth saving.

Re-flocks and lacing in.

Straightening and widening gullets (channels).

Edging, staining and prepping girth straps.

Replacing straps.

Removal of CAIR/HART/FLAIR systems and replacing with flock.

How to take apart the panel and re-case.

How to shorten a panel.

How to reduce a gusset.

How to add webbing for balance or point straps safely.

Quilting stitches.

You will not learn how to make a saddle but you will learn how a saddle is constructed and how the various parts are related so that the whole functions as a perfect unit. You will learn how to assess a saddle and establish safe limits for what you can and cannot do.

Saddle Repair kit

Flocking iron

De-flocking iron

Masher

Stanley knife or clicker knife

Pliers - flat head/short nose

Staple lifter

Tack hammer

Thimbles

Awls

Curved backing awl

Strap/pricking iron

Edge strip/edging tool

Bone folder/burnishing stick

Scissors

Lacing in needles - counter lining needle

Strap stitching needles - harness needle

Beeswax

Threads - various for lacing in & stitching

Stain

Additionally for the workshop:

Flock

Old saddles

Old saddle panels and girths