

Installation Instructions

The Portage Strap

See it on video on Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/walnutstudiolo/portagestrap>

1. Before you begin, make sure that your top tube is roughly 1-1/8" (appx 2.85 cm) diameter and that the cable stays aren't positioned where the Portage Strap would go. It doesn't have to be exact, so don't worry if the leather seems stiff right now - once it gets wet it will be flexible and pliable and will stretch into shape. If you do have cable housing running along your top tube, disconnect move it out of the way while we stitch it on and then reconnect it when done. The cable housing should live outside of the portage strap.
2. Clean and dry your top tube and seat tube where the Portage Strap is going to go using rubbing alcohol or warm soapy water. Remove the grease and anything that sticks to the bar so that the double-sided tape will adhere.
3. Wet the leather down completely until soft and pliable in lukewarm to tepid water. The water temperature should be comfortable to the touch (too-hot water will shrink the leather). Completely dunk the leather in the water and allow it to soak entirely through. (You can even seal the wet leather in a plastic ziplock bag overnight for maximum pliability). Don't worry, it will dry into place during installation.
4. Before you remove the double-sided tape backing, practice positioning the strap on the bar to make sure you know where it's going to go. Then, remove the waxed paper backing of the double-sided tape on the top tube (long) side. Carefully position the strap on the top tube to make sure it's centered on the bar before beginning stitching. The tape will hold it in place now. Pull the leather around the bar, and you will feel it start to form.
5. Cut the included thread in half, one for each side. Begin stitching by going out the first hole from the inside and leaving a good-sized "tail" of string, which we'll come back and tie off later.
6. Begin by stitching by looping the thread around the first hole twice. Follow the stitching pattern of your choice using the Stitching Diagram on the reverse side of this paper.
7. Continue stitching in your stitch pattern of choice until the end. While you're stitching, let it stay loose - we'll come back and tighten it, and it will be easier to grab the thread if it's done loosely.
8. Loop the thread around the last hole twice.
9. Now go back and tighten the string down along the length of the stitching, from the beginning to the end. Needle-nosed pliers or the blunt end of the needle can help you pull the thread tight.
10. Tie off both ends: Thread the needle with the "tail" and tie a surgeon's knot by going through the knot loop twice and tightening down (how-to: <http://www.animatedknots.com/surgeonsjoin/>). Run the tail through one of the stitching holes on the underside of your stitching to tuck the knot underneath, pull it tight, and cut the tail of the thread.
11. Repeat this installation on the seat tube. Don't forget to reconnect the brake cable housing on the top tube, if you have one!

TIPS AND TRICKS

- The water may not soak through where the double-sided tape is on the reverse side. Don't worry, this is normal and when it dries you'll never know the difference.
- You can "whip tie" the ends of the bar wrap using twine with Elmer's Glue or shellac: <https://bit.ly/3apakeO>
- For more tips and tricks, go to our Bicycle Bar Wraps FAQ: <https://walnutstudiolo.com/bicycle-faq>

Walnut combines thoughtful modern design with old-world craft.

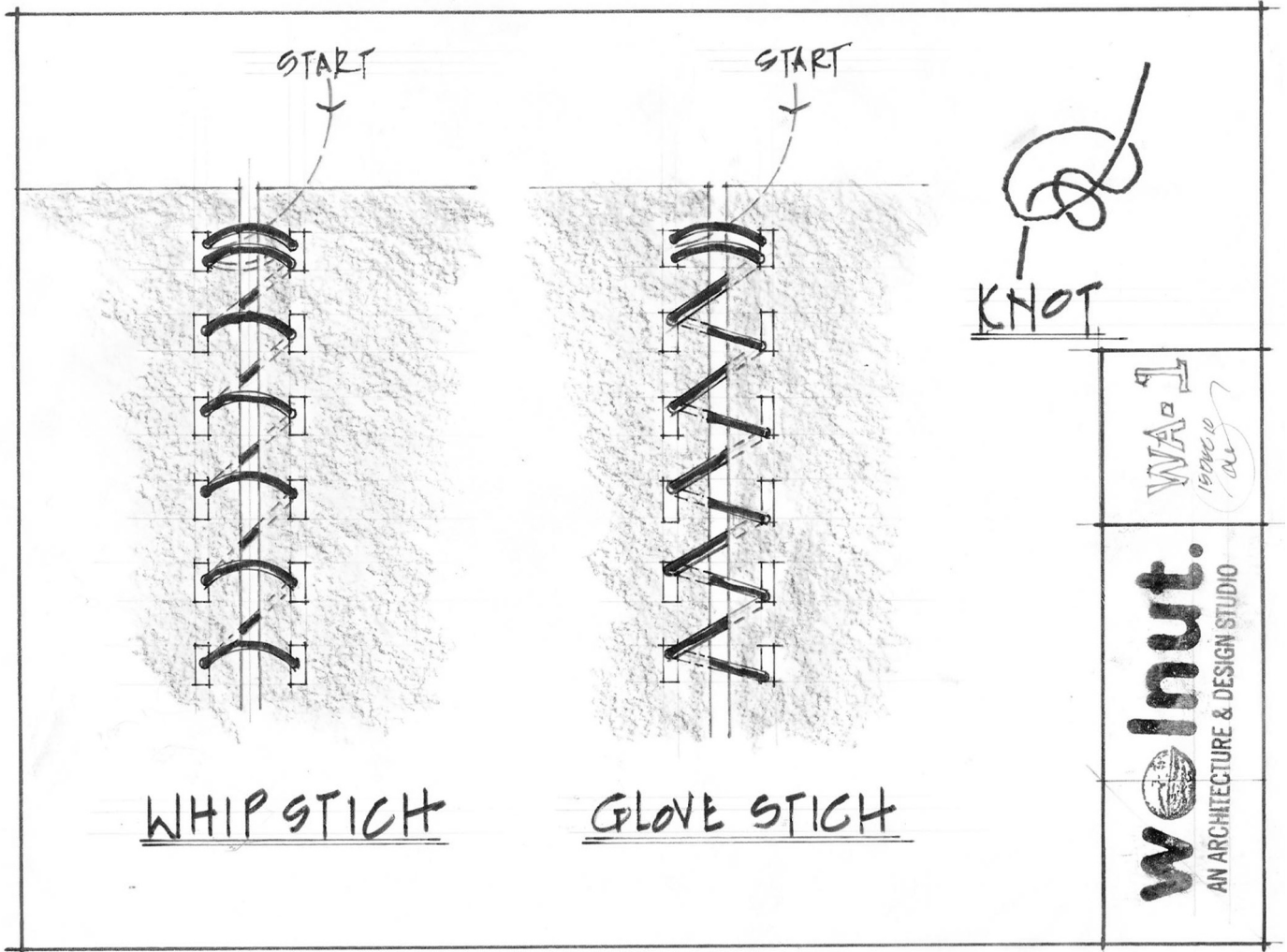


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Stitching Diagram

There's no wrong way to stitch on your Walnut Studiolo wraps. Here are our two favorite types of stitching, but you can use any kind of stitch you like, including ones that you make up!



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