

Slim Briefcase



Materials:

3-4 oz leather, with firm temper. Probably 5 would work as well but it is somewhat of an overkill for this design. I used QTan Bridle 3 oz (by Thoroughbred).
Waxed thread around 0.8mm thick, that's more of your own choice, that is what I use.

Hardware:

2 x 1" buckles
Rivets

Tools:

Scissors, knife (paper knife or rotary cutter would also work).
Stitching irons: my pattern is made for 5mm stitching irons (5 stitches per inch). If you are willing to use any other size please make sure that the hole count is the same where it has to be the same: the pocket seams, the vertical seams, the bottom and both front and back panels.
Needles - according to your thread size, a pair of saddle needles.
Mallet, rivet setter, hole puncher.

Instructions:

Print the pattern at actual size (100%). Use the reference on top of each page to make sure everything is printed correctly. Join the pages together. Cut out the pieces.

Sew the body and the flap together. You can cut it out as one single piece, aligning the flap and body pattern pieces at the stitching lines.

Attach the handle with the rivets.

Make the strap keepers, assemble the buckles, rivet them on the front of the body piece. Stitch the straps onto the body, set the top rivets on the back. Sew the flap keepers on the flap.

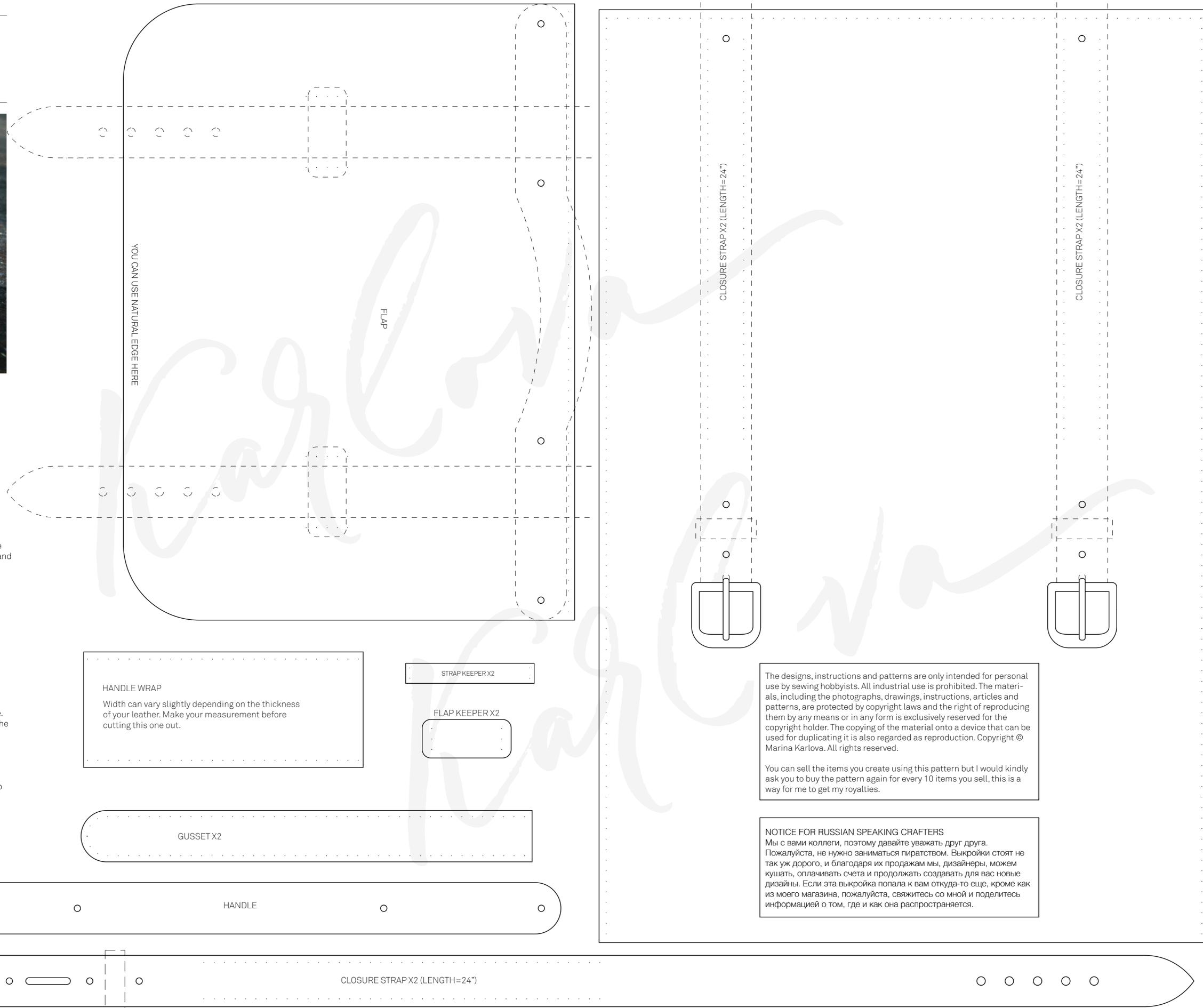
Sew the body and gussets together. This is an overlapping seam which is a little bit slower but it looks good. In the seam the body layer goes on top of the gusset layer.

Sew the handle wrap with the baseball stitch (can be X-stitch or parallel stitch, that's up to you!) You have to sew it right on the handle :)

Pass the closure straps over the handle and through the flap keepers.

Any questions or comments, e-mail me: lissius@gmail.com.

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