

ALKEBU WAY

MASTER LEATHER JACKET PRODUCTION GUIDE

GOLDEN RULE FOR LEATHER: Leather keeps permanent needle holes. You cannot unpick a mistake. Every tailor must test their machine settings and thread on a scrap piece of the exact same brown cattle hide before stitching the actual panels. Never use regular pins on leather panels; use fabric clips instead.

1. WORKSHOP PREPARATION & SETUP

- **For the Outside Leather:** Set up the machine with a thick, heavy-duty thread and a **Size 16 or 18 Leather Needle (Wedge Point)**. A regular round needle will pull, punch ugly holes, and tear the hide.
- **For the Inside Lining:** Wipe down the entire machine to remove any dark leather oil. Change to a fresh, clean, regular **Size 10 or 12 Sharp Needle** and light sewing thread. A thick leather needle will completely ruin the smooth cream cupro fabric.

2. FRONT PANELS (ACHIEVING "LUXURY CALMNESS")

The front of this jacket must look completely clean, smooth, and minimal. No machine stitches should be seen on the outside surface of these panels.

CURVED FRONT SEAMS & FRONT PANEL SEAMS

- **Stitch Settings:** Regular straight stitch, medium-small size.
- **How to sew:** Join the leather panels from the inside. Clip the curved seam allowances slightly so they lay flat. Apply leather glue (contact cement) to the seam flaps, spread them open, and hammer them completely flat against the hide.

FRONT ZIPPER & ASYMMETRICAL OVERLAP PANEL

- **Stitch Settings:** Straight topstitch, set slightly longer (about 6 to 7 stitches per inch).
- **How to sew:** Sew straight and close to the edge (2mm to 3mm away). Keep the zipper tape completely flat as you sew. If the stitches are too small or close together, they will cut the leather like paper and pull out.
- **Internal Support:** Glue a strip of lightweight fusible backing on the inside of the leather edge before sewing the zipper. This keeps the zipper edge perfectly straight so it never waves or ripples.

HIGH STAND COLLAR

- **How to sew:** Join the collar piece, then sew the inside seam allowance to the inner neck facing layer from the inside (called understitching). This pulls the join slightly inward. The outside facing field must remain clean and stitch-free.

3. BACK PANELS & HIDDEN FABRIC REVEAL

CENTER BACK SEAM & CURVED BACK SEAMS

- **Stitch Settings:** Regular straight stitch, medium-small size.
- **How to sew:** Sew the center back spine slowly. Open the flaps, glue them, and hammer them totally flat. Glue a lightweight cotton stay-tape down the middle of the center back seam on the inside. This stabilizes the spine and stops the leather from stretching over time.

TAILORED PEPLUM PANELS & PLEATED VENTS (KIKOY INSERT)

- **Kikoy Prep:** The handwoven Kikoy fabric must be washed and steam-ironed before cutting so it never shrinks inside the jacket later.
- **The Pleat Apex (Top Corner Point):** This point takes all the pulling force when the wearer moves. You must stitch back and forth 2 to 3 times internally (hidden bar-tack) at the exact top point of the triangle opening to lock it securely.
- **Joining the Fabric:** Sew the Kikoy to the inner pleat panels using a normal straight stitch. Loosen the machine thread tension. The Kikoy must have a tiny bit of looseness/slack inside so it does not pull or pucker the outer leather. It should only be seen when the wearer moves.

4. HEMS & OPENINGS

SLEEVE CUFF & BOTTOM HEM

- **Strict Rule:** Do not topstitch the outside hem surface.
- **How to finish:** Fold the leather edge inward to the inside facing, apply high-quality leather glue, and hammer down flat. The hem must stay perfectly clean, flat, and invisible on the outside.

5. INSIDE LINING CONSTRUCTION (CREAM CUPRO)

FULL INSIDE LINING JOINTS

- **Stitch Settings:** Tight straight stitch (10 to 12 stitches per inch) to stop the cupro from fraying or tearing open.
- **Center Back Freedom Pleat:** Leave a loose, unstitched ½-inch vertical fold running down the center back line of the lining fabric. Do not stitch this fold down flat. This gives the client room to stretch their arms forward without ripping the soft lining fabric.
- **Inside Pocket:** Sew a clean lockstitch around the pocket opening to attach it firmly to the internal leather face-facing panel. Double-stitch the inside edges for durability.

FINAL QUALITY CHECK FOR THE SUPERVISOR

1. **Touch Test:** Run your hand over the center back and panel seams. Are they hammered totally flat without bumps?
2. **Front Inspection:** Is the front completely clean and minimal, without any accidental surface stitches? Is the zipper lying completely flat and straight?
3. **Pleat Test:** Pull the back panels apart. Does the top of the pleat hold firmly without cracking? Does the Kikoy sit naturally inside without pulling the hide?
4. **Cleanliness:** Check the cream lining for any stray machine oil or visible glue stains.