

RE:STEER

Crafted from Motion. Made to Last.

This project investigates the lifecycle of materials and the potential for functional objects to carry new meaning without losing their original identity.

By retaining the steering wheel's circular structure, the design preserves its ergonomic familiarity and symbolic association with motion. The object is not deconstructed beyond recognition; instead, it is adapted. The original form becomes both structural framework and handle, allowing its past function to remain visible within its new context.

SUSTAINABILITY APPROACH

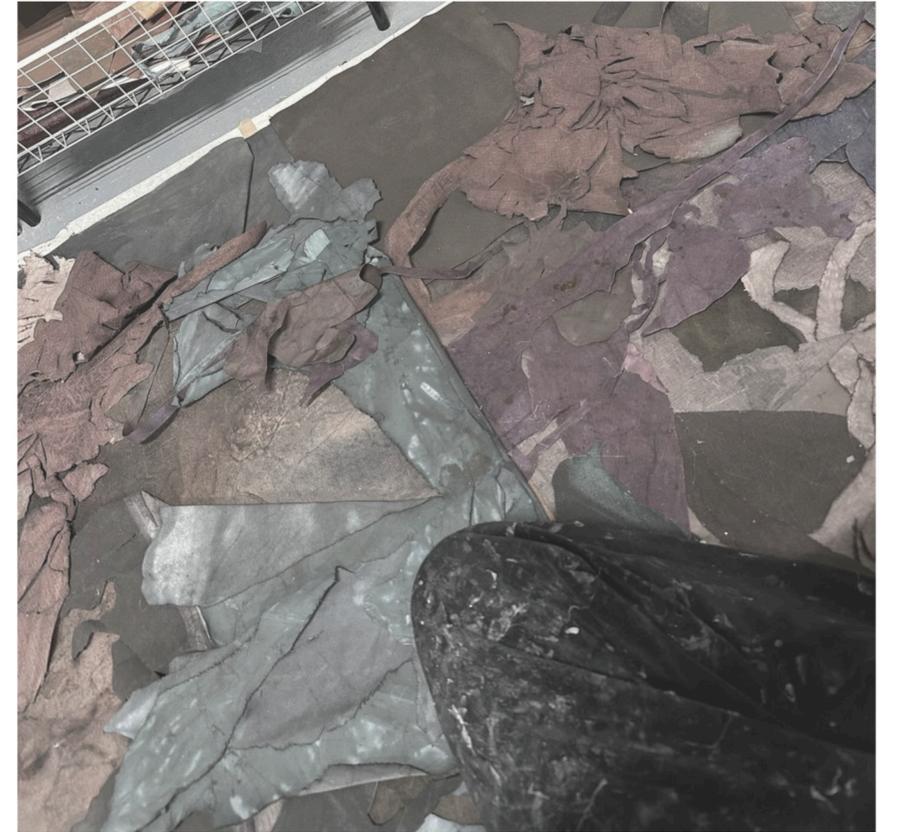


Sustainability in this project is approached through:

- Material reclamation
- Extended object lifecycle
- Repair-oriented construction
- Durability over trend



Repurposing the steering wheel diverts a functional component from disposal and reduces reliance on new structural materials. The construction allows for future disassembly and repair, supporting longevity.



MATERIAL + REUSE



Primary Structural Component

- Reclaimed Lincoln Aviator steering wheel

Leathers

- Maverick calfskin (3–4.5 oz)
- Soft suede pigskin (1–2 oz)

Thread

- 0.8 mm flat waxed thread

Each material was selected for structural performance, flexibility, and long-term wear.

The steering wheel provides rigidity.

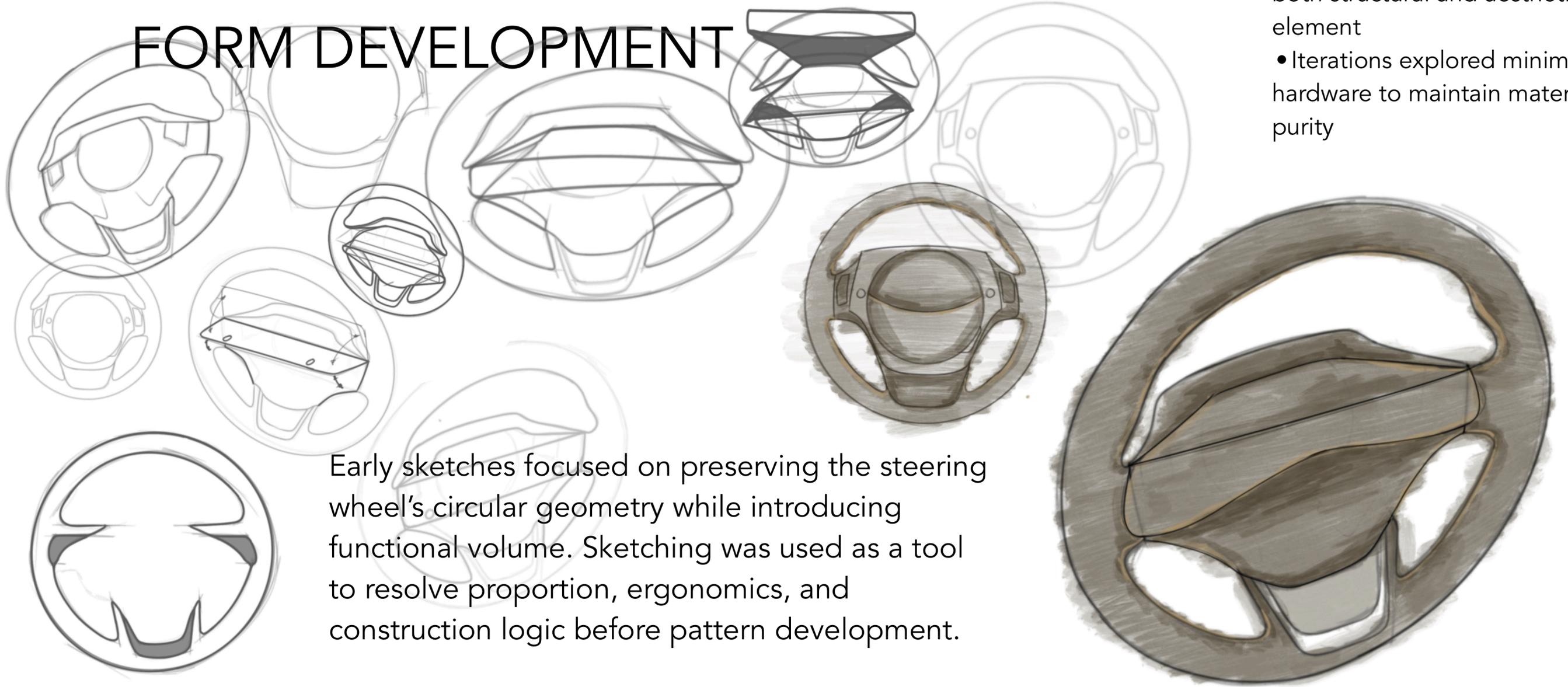
Calfskin provides durability and surface control.

Suede pigskin allows for flexibility and internal contouring.

Waxed thread ensures strength and repairability.



SKETCH IDEATION & FORM DEVELOPMENT



- Back panel development to allow for storage without disrupting form
- Stitch placement studied as both structural and aesthetic element
- Iterations explored minimal hardware to maintain material purity

Early sketches focused on preserving the steering wheel's circular geometry while introducing functional volume. Sketching was used as a tool to resolve proportion, ergonomics, and construction logic before pattern development.

PATTERNING

Pattern development began directly on the steering wheel to respect its geometry.

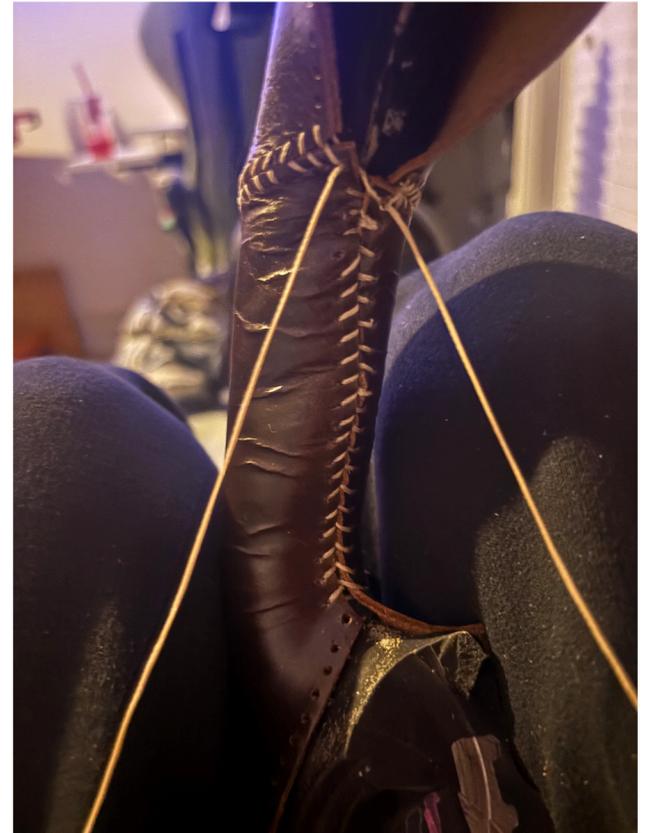
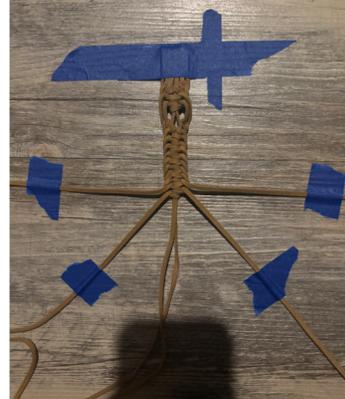
Steps included:

- Paper pattern taping and refinement on the form
- Grain direction planning to support curvature
- Hand cutting to control edge integrity
- Progressive leather wrapping to manage tension

This approach reduced material waste and ensured precision without altering the wheel's structure.



HAND SEWING



The entire bag is fully hand-stitched.

Hand stitching was chosen because:

- It increases durability
- It allows controlled tension around curves
- It supports long-term repair
- It reveals the maker's presence

Visible stitching is not decorative; it is structural documentation.



FINAL PRODUCT





