VELO ORANGE

Oiltan Top Tube Protector Installation Instructions

Please read these instructions to the end before starting the installation, since anticipating the next step will make things easier.

Oiltan is a natural material from a wild animal, so you may find the occasional scratch or nick; it's simply the nature of the beast. You may also find that there is an occasional "wave" or nick in the edge. Even though the protectors are cut using a special laser cut die, the material can stretch or shift in the die. Don't worry: when sewn and pulled together these irregularities disappear.

The protector is sewn on using a stitch similar to that on a baseball, which uses 2 needles. There is a diagram of the sewing sequence on the last page of these instructions.

1. With a sharp pair of scissors or with a razor knife and straightedge, cut the strip of leather to the length you want for the top tube. If you stretch the leather sideways you'll see the little perforations for sewing; cut between them, not through them. We recommend wrapping smaller tubes with one layer of cloth tape to increase the tube's diameter slightly under the leather.

2. Tie the ends of the lengths of threads together. Make sure the knot is fat, or it will pull through the holes. Thread a needle onto each end and pull some thread through each needle's eye.

3. Starting at the end, pass each needle through the leather from back to front, so the knot will be under the leather. Then loop the thread over the leather and pass the needles through both holes and out the hole across from the entry hole. Pull tight. The seam should be under the tube if viewed from the saddle.

4. With one needle, pull the thread diagonally over the seam and into the top of the next hole, then under the leather and out the hole. Do the same with the other needle, crossing over the first thread. Pull the thread tight after each stitch. Again, please see the diagram on the last page.

5. When you reach the end, loop the thread over the leather, straight across, as you did at the start. The needles should exit under the leather and to the side. Tie both threads together with an overhand knot. Push the knot under the leather and carefully cut off the excess leather and thread.

6. As with all leather, apply some Velo Orange saddle care, Neatsfoot oil, or other leather treatment.

If you need any additional help or have comments, please don't hesitate to e-mail *info@velo-orange.com*

