

Installation Instructions

Bullwhip Leather Bar Wraps

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

1. Thoroughly clean your handlebars using rubbing alcohol or warm soapy water.
2. Wet the leather under the tap with lukewarm to tepid water (hot water will shrink) and pat dry with a towel.
3. If you have brake hoods: The easiest thing to do is to lift up the rubber hood, leaving the brake intact, and simply wrap the straps around it. When the rubber hood is put back down, it should cover the gap between the metal and the leather. Alternatively, you can remove them completely, making sure to keep the brake hood bands in their original location.
4. To begin, stitch the punched section of the wrap around the brake using the included needle and thread. Loop the thread around the first hole twice. The stitching will be covered by the hoods, so you only need to stitch the first two and last two to anchor it in place.
5. To start braiding, beginning from the brake hood, take two of the straps and cross them over the top of the bar, left over right. Take the two other straps, and cross them under the bar, right over left.
6. See diagram below to continue braiding pattern.
7. Focus your attention on the outsides of the curves. The diamond pattern will be most clearly visible on the convex curves of the bar, so pay special attention when you get to those curves not to leave any gaps. The pattern will be less clear with more leather overlap on the concave curves of the bar – don't worry about those areas so much.
8. When you get to the end of the bar, have a small strip of electrical tape handy. Wrap the tape around the end of the bars and cut to trim the leather flush with the bar.
9. Repeat the previous steps on the other sides of the bars.

TIPS

- Having trouble with the braiding pattern? Try color coding the four straps by tying differently colored string or rubber bands to the ends and check out this tutorial on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/1Svt-Ba5ePY>
- Your hands will flatten the braid in and settle it in with use over time, or you can use this trick to speed it up. Grab a tool with a heavy cylinder, like a hammer handle, and wet the braided-on wraps down completely. You can't get them too wet now. Now "polish" it or "brush" it with the wood handle by rubbing the handle against the braids with a brisk back-and-forth motion all along the bars. This "settles" the braid in.
- You can "whip tie" the ends of the bar wrap with twine/thread. More on our blog: <https://bit.ly/3apake0>
- For more tips and tricks, go to our Bicycle Bar Wraps FAQ: <https://walnutstudiolo.com/bicycle-faq>

