

JKß - JOY KROEGER BECKNER - JKß

classical realism, from hounds to humans

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Belt Basics - 2021_11_20

Ordering a belt strap, if you haven't ordered one before, may seem like a daunting task. Between the picture and my guideline below, ordering should be pretty easy.



Bar ▲

Prong ▲

Buckles

1. Bar..... The Belt Strap snaps over the "Bar." The Belt Strap will be to the left of and up and snapped over the bar.
2. Prong..... Part of the buckle that goes through the hole in your strap. Shown to the right above is the "Prong."

Straps

1. Shape..... My buckles look best on a straight strap!
2. Width..... I recommend a 1 1/4" wide strap that is approximately 1/8" thick.
3. Fold-over..... The strap is attached to your buckle by folding it over the bar and snapping it. This creates a "fold-over."
4. Keeper..... A narrow, 3/8"- 1/2" wide strip of matching leather through which you slide the tip of your belt to keep it tidy. You may not always use a keeper, but be sure to always get one.

How to order the correct size belt strap:

The goal is to acquire a belt strap that is sized so that, when you wear it, the prong is in the center hole.

I recommend you order your waist size when ordering a strap. Unless you wear a lot of long underwear, this should fit you perfectly and allow for adjustment. If you measure on the half inch, and prefer a looser fit, I suggest you order an inch larger than your waist size. If you prefer to show off your waist, order down a half inch.

If the belt maker asks about the bar to prong measurement, tell him it is approximately 1 3/4". Better yet, please measure yours from the edge to the center of prong at the base.

Strap Sources

"Vegetable-tanned Cowhide" Ostrich (Cognac & Black); Lizard (Black & Silvery White.)

Larry Knapp, Leathersmith, Taos, NM info@taosleather.com Search: www.taosleather.com

"Exotics" Alligator, Reptiles, etc. Wehmeiers, New Orleans, LA. Search: www.wehmeiers.com

When ordering from Wehmeiers, be sure to ask for "skived" ends. These are tapered in thickness.

One of my buckles and your custom strap are subtle symbols of your unique style. Your buckle can be changed from a casual to a more formal look with a change of straps -- from cowhide to lizard, ostrich, or alligator. A wardrobe of straps extends the occasions when you can wear your new, handcrafted buckle.

Wear in good health. Thank you!