

# [The Process of Leather Tanning] William Trueman

**Date:** The manuscript is dated 1750, 1771-1772. | 1750/01/01 to 1772/12/31

Contributors

Contributor Role

Compiler

Contributor Name

William Trueman

Contributor Role

Compiler

Contributor Name

John Trueman

Publication Format

Manuscript

Type

Miscellaneous

Ingredients

hides

lime

fat

water

soft water

bark

black birch bark

hemlock

hemlock bark

Places

New Brunswick

Yorkshire

**Source:** John and William Trueman Notebook

**Institution:** Mount Allison University Archives | **Source Origin:** Trueman Family Fonds, 1750-1931 |

**Sublocation:** 1. Trueman family notebooks, account books, diaries, and artifacts. 1750, 1771-1883. | **Reference:** Accession 0102

Description

Instructions for tanning leather using dye made of birch and hemlock bark on folio 22r and 21v. This recipe has been written in the book upside down, relative to the others. Image courtesy of Mount Allison University Archives.

## Transcription

### The Proses of ^LeatherTanning

If the Hide is dry soke  
them till quite soft &

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then put them in Lime  
fatt and let the lime be quick  
taking them out 2 times a day  
to air till you find the hair  
com of, then scrape the flesh  
of and put them in ^softwatter  
scraping them every day  
till the watter com clear from  
them; then lay them in your  
fatt with Bark and stirr  
your fatt well & let them  
be coverd with [ouse] Air  
them at first puting in  
as conveinent if the [ous]  
is weak add more Bark  
it will require fresh bark  
about once a month \_\_\_\_\_

when you lay them away  
mind to have Bark [between]  
till ready to take out ——  
NB black birch bark and  
Hemlock Equall Quantity

The Process of Leather Tanning recipe from Early Modern Maritime Recipes:  
<https://emmr.lib.unb.ca/recipes/258>