

INSTRUCTIONS: Leather Mouse Pad

By Claudia Sieb

Underwhelmed by your purchased mouse pad? It's just not as stylish as you are! We found this wonderful inspiration at <http://www.earnesthomeco.com/rose-gold-leather-mousepad-diy/> and ran with it.

Supplies:

Cork:

Buy a square sheet at Michaels.

Leather Scraps:

We found ours at SAS in Phoenix, but there are a few of these fabric stores in the Valley, including one in nearby Tempe. Leather scraps were \$7 per lb. so this will cost you MAYBE \$3, tops.

Strong glue such as E6000, available at hardware stores and sometimes at the Dollar Stores

X-acto or utility knife, cutting surface, straight edge, small stick for spreading glue

INSTRUCTIONS:

Create a rectangle pattern that fits your needs, ours is 7" x 9". Using a straight edge and X-acto, cut it out from your selected leather. We used a textured leather, but a smooth will work better with your mouse.

If you want, using your straight edge and X-acto, cut off a diagonal corner, and then cut a contrasting piece of leather to fit. Apply glue to a piece of cork, spreading it evenly; no empty areas. Spread glue the same way on the backs of two mouse pad pieces. Place the two pieces onto the cork, fitting the corner edges tightly together. Hold together for a few moments to make sure the corner edges are tight with no gap. Placing your straight edge on the leather, trim off the extra cork around each edge. Set heavy books on top of the mouse pad, weighting it until the glue dries.

Done! These would also make great trivets for hot dishes!! Go wild by creating your own shapes, using straight cuts rather than curved cuts, which are pretty tricky to cut out of leather or cork.

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