



Camellia DESIGN

MAKING A MAHL STICK



An artist's Mahl stick is a great tool to help steady the hand when working on your artwork.

Making your own is inexpensive and simple, with the additional benefit of adjusting it to your own preferences.



Camellia DESIGN

MATERIALS



- A length of 10mm diameter wooden dowel 1m long
- A good size piece of chamois leather
- A ball of string
- A pair of scissors



Camellia DESIGN

STEP 1



- Cut the chamois leather into 5 pieces,
- Three small at approximately 5 cm across.
- Two larger at approximately 15 cm Across
- Cut a length of string approximately 30cm long and soak it in a glass of warm water until it is soft.



Camellia DESIGN

STEP 2



- Place the three small 5cm pieces of chamois leather on the end of the dowel
- Place the two larger 15cm pieces of chamois leather over the top and pull the leather down over the dowel and gather tightly.



Camellia DESIGN

STEP 3



- Wind the soaked string firmly around the chamois leather securing it to the dowel.
- Knot the string and cut the ends.
- Wait for the string to dry.
- As it dries it will shrink and tighten firmly around the dowel.



Camellia DESIGN

STEP 4



- Finally trim the excess chamois leather with the scissors
- You now have yourself your very own mahl stick!
- Remember you can always adjust the length of dowel and the amount of leather used as padding to your own preferences.