

REPTILE TANNING: Alligators, Turtles, Lizards, Snakes, etc.

Citric Acid Pickle:

- per gallon water
- 1 lb. salt
- 3 oz. CITRIC ACID (maintain pH 1.8-2.0 w/ Citric Acid pickle)
- 1 fl. oz. DEGREASER
- pickle 1-3 days (thicker skins: 3 days...thin / small skins: overnight)
- shave / fine flesh
- degrease
- proceed to tan

Degreasing Bath Formula:

- per gallon WARM water (80-85 deg F) , 1/2 cup salt, 1 fl. oz. DEGREASER (30 min. - 1 hour)

Brush On Tanning Option: (for small reptiles, scaleless snakes, lizards, etc.)

Neutralize pickled skins before applying BRUSH ON TANNING OIL:

- per gallon cool water
- 1/2 cup salt
- 2 tablespoons baking soda
- soak 10-15 min....remove, rinse, dry w/ paper towel
- apply BRUSH ON TANNING OIL (fold skin-to-skin...leave sweat all day)...
- bag & refrigerate overnight (ready to mount...wipe off excess oil prior to mounting)

Submersible Tan Option: (for small reptiles, scaleless snakes, lizards, etc.)

(see Submersible Tan for Alligators / Large Reptiles next page)

- per quart cool water
- 2 oz. salt by weight
- 1 tablespoon measure LEATHER TANNING CONCENTRATE
- remove from pickle, add to tan solution (soak overnight)
- to finish, add 2 teaspoon measures baking soda to tan solution (soak 15 minutes)
- remove, rinse...paper towel dry & apply LEATHER FINISHING OIL
- fold skin-to-skin & leave at room temp. to end of day...bag & refrigerate
- wipe off excess oil prior to mounting

Rattlesnakes / Copperheads: NO PRE-PICKLING

- skin & flesh clean...

Tanning Solution:

- 1 gallon cool water + 1 cup salt + 2 fl. oz. LEATHER TANNING CONCENTRATE + 1 fl. oz. Degreaser
- add skin to solution & soak 1 hour
- remove, rinse & press-dry w/ paper towel
- oil w/ BRUSH-ON TANNING OIL (fold skin-to-skin & leave at room temp. to end of day)
- ready to mount or bag & refrigerate (wipe off excess oil prior to mounting)

Decorative Skins: tack out first, then apply tanning oil...let dry

ALLIGATORS / LARGE REPTILES...

- rough flesh & salt heavily 48 hours (change out salt after 24 hours)
- rehydrate completely in plain COLD water
- pickle (degreaser in pickle recommended)
- shave
- degrease (1 hour)
- re-pickle
- drain briefly from pickle & weigh skin
(round up or down to get 5 lb increments...i.e. 18 to 20, etc.)
- tan per instructions listed below...

SUBMERSIBLE TAN: (DO NOT PRE-NEUTRALIZE)

- drain skins from pickle & go straight to tan bath...

Volume Submersible Tan Formula for Alligators / Large Reptiles:

Note: this formula is good for appx. 10 lbs. drained, pickled skin

(double amounts for 20 lbs., multiply by 2.5 for 25 lbs., or 1.5 for 15 lbs., etc.)

- per 5 gallon clean cool water
- 2 ½ lb. salt
- 8 fl. oz. LEATHER TANNING CONCENTRATE
- soak / tan for 48 hours (agitate periodically)
- remove skins, mix ½ cup baking soda into tan bath...re-add skin & agitate 1 hour
- remove, rinse, drain & apply warmed Leather Finishing Oil...
cover w/ plastic & sweat overnight @ room temp.
(to mount, simply rinse briefly in lukewarm water & drain)