

Brain Tanning Bison Hides



wiseGEEK

Preserving the Hide

- Freeze the hide until you are ready to work on it, or
- Salt down the hide until you are ready to work on it,
or
- Stretch the hide on a frame, it will dry in about 48
hours.

Hide Tanning Instructor Carl Froese Manitoba Buckskin





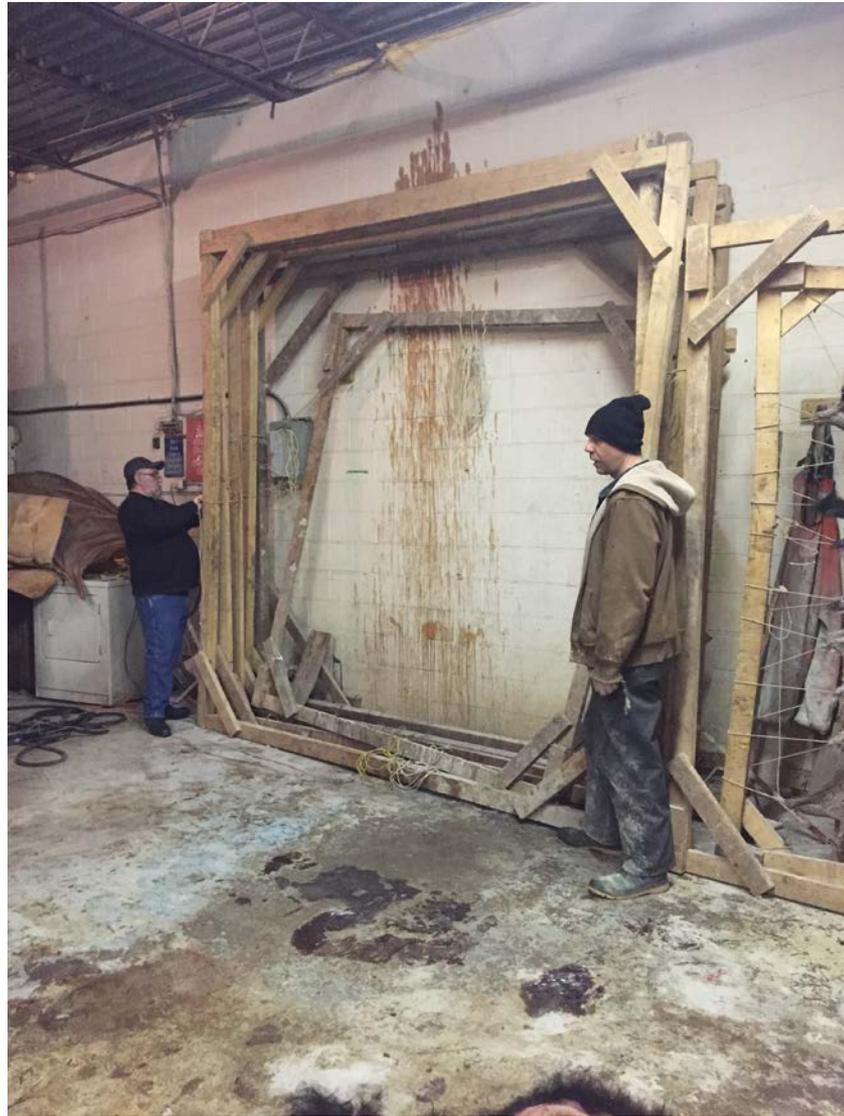
Before stretching the hide on the frame clear off any remaining membrane and fat around the edges where you will be cutting slits for lacing.











Fleshing the hide.



In general, with the fleshing, the scraping, framing, and the stretching, working the hide with the grain, head to tail, will be the most effective.







Carl: Fleshing a deer hide.





Getting the head ready.



Skinning out the head to get at the brains.



Put the hide up on a frame to dry. When it is dry, scrape the flesh side to clear off any remaining membrane and fat. scrape, down to the white fibres. This is a feel that you have to get used to. The sharper the blade you use, the easier and safer it will be.



Scraping tools, two made of axeheads and one made of bone.



The hide is now framed.





















Rubbing in the solution of brain,
soap and Neat oil.



Scraping the brain solution from the hide, this softens the hide and stretches it, the ties are then retightened after this is done









Scraping, note the pile of salted hides to the left.





The smoking shed, the Buffalo hide is on the back wall.

