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Leather - Terminology - Key definitions for the leather trade



## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

**EN 15987**

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

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Supersedes EN 15987:2015

English Version

## Leather - Terminology - Key definitions for the leather trade

Cuir - Terminologie - Définitions pour le commerce du cuir

Leder - Terminologie - Hauptbegriffe für den Lederhandel

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 19 September 2022.

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

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## European foreword

This document (EN 15987:2022) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 289 “Leather”, the secretariat of which is held by UNI.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by April 2023, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by April 2023.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN 15987:2015.

In comparison with the previous edition, the following technical modification has been made:

- modification of term “leather” in 3.1.1.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

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## 1 Scope

This document specifies the key terms and definitions used for the leather trade and provides guidance on the correct use of the term “leather”.

Defined parameters in this document need to be assessed using standard test methods specific for leather.

NOTE See Bibliography for leather test method standards.

## 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

### 3.1 Key terms

#### 3.1.1

##### **leather**

hide or skin exclusively of animal origin, with its original fibrous structure more or less intact, tanned to be imputrescible, where the hair or wool may or may not have been removed, whether or not the hide or skin has been split into layers or segmented either before or after tanning and where any surface coating or surface layer, however applied, is not thicker than 0,15 mm

Note 1 to entry: If the tanned hide or skin is disintegrated mechanically and/or chemically into fibrous particles, small pieces or powders and then, with or without the combination of a binding agent, is made into sheets or other forms, such sheets or forms are not leather.

Note 2 to entry: If the grain layer has been completely removed, the term “leather” is not to be used without further qualification, e.g. split leather, suede leather.

#### 3.1.2

##### **split leather**

layer from a hide or skin made from a flesh split or a middle split, without any grain structure, tanned to be imputrescible

Note 1 to entry: A split is a layer of hide or skin obtained by dividing it horizontally (splitting) to obtain at least two separate layers; the top layer is called top- grain split, and the bottom layer is called flesh split; for heavy hides also a middle split can be obtained.

Note 2 to entry: If the name of the animal whence it originates, or the part of the animal whence it comes, is included in the description, the term “split leather” will be used as a noun, e.g. pig split leather.

#### 3.1.3

##### **crust**

leather which is tanned, fatliquored and dried, before finishing