

# L'Artigiano del Guanto S.r.l

**L 'Artigiano del Guanto S.r.l:** Artigiano del Guanto is a Neapolitan brand specialized in the production of handmade leather gloves. The brand, now a production laboratory active in the North of Naples, was founded by Giovanni Ricciardiello, a master glove maker for 50 years, a historic exponent of the " tradition of the ancient Parthenopean gloves ". In 2016 the brand is renewed and with him the production chain. Today Artigiano del Guanto is a family-run company in which the figures of Francesco, Mimmo and Flora - Giovanni's sons - who stand out, together with the indispensable presence of dad Giovanni, have renewed the brand starting from 2016 embracing new styles of production and communication to address the needs of the public 2.0.

**Artigiano del Guanto** wakes up at 06:30 and at 7:20 the door of our workshop is already open.

The first word that echoes in the empty cave is "Good morning". At 07:30, as a good Neapolitan, the

first morning coffee is already ready and we leave for 08:00.

The first bucket of water to soften the hides is already full and makes a good show of itself under the counter

marble that will be almost 45 years old.

The glove takes shape between a look and a pull on the skin (lambs or crossed, it all depends on the

type of bathroom purchased by the tanner).

**The first phase** of the process consists in moistening the hides by wrapping them in a canvas cloth (or '

stracc '), previously immersed in the bucket of water for a few seconds (nà calta e nà izat'), then

we pass to the spreading of the leather on the bench, rigorously working it by hand adopting the right ones

criteria, then with the help of scissors, a rectangle of skin of 33 \* 30cm is formed, measured

with the line only in inches.

**From here the technical processing starts**, with the shearing the leather begins to take the shape of the glove. With

the same way the thumb is created. Once this shape is obtained, the itinerary for embroidery is followed here

there is all the technique of our brother Mimmo, and of uncle Aniello, who through small little blades,

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curved cuts and various dies give life to holes, leather stitchings, weaves, straps, folds, etc.

That's all ? No!

**Now we are in the delicate phase of the seam**, entrusted to highly qualified personnel who have been around for 35 years carries out this profession. The machines for the production of the glove vary according to the type of desired stitching (saddle, strok or piquet). Let's not forget the passion and thrift of those who sew exclusively by hand and creates small pieces of art, as someone described in the past years.

**After sewing**, we move on to the "splinting" phase, that is, to the careful control of the seams, which precedes the lining. The lining is done with the use of special wooden hands on which it is spread the lining. A light veil of vegetable glue is spread on the fingertips and then the glove. To ensure that the lining is perfectly glued, the glove is inserted on a thermal hand which will increase its adhesion.

**The final stages of production** begin, hemming is carried out which can be done by hand or by car, and we are almost at the terminus, in fact there are only two stops left! The gloves are "set", ie stretched on the thermal hands, joined with cotton and subjected at the final inspection, before moving on to the final moment of insertion in the package of destination.

