**[Tattooed John](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/14121-tattooed-john/" \o "Go to Tattooed John's profile)**

* Bilge Rat
* 
* 
* Member
* 6 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:La Florida
* Interests:The Buccanneering era
The GAOP
Maritime history in general

I've also always enjoyed learning and teaching about Native and Early American history and the NW Fur Trade.
Scrimshaw, carving, and art in general
Powder and Shot
Tattoos!
Rum connoisseur!

[Posted April 25, 2011](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/17963-reptile-leather-in-the-17th-and-18th-century/&do=findComment&comment=399044) (edited) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/17963-reptile-leather-in-the-17th-and-18th-century/&do=reportComment&comment=399044)

Hey all! I first mentioned this as an afterthought in a post on cartouches and bags in the workshop area of the forum.

But I figured I would throw this out there, Although I doubt they were commonly used, because I haven't found any documentation suggesting it, but I've always wondered if sheaths, bags, etc. were made out of the various reptilian species (caiman, snakes, gator, etc.) people ran into throughout the Main and the Caribbean? Anybody find any primary resources stating such? Food for thought at least lol 

**Edited April 25, 2011 by Tattooed John**

[**captscurvy\_nc**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/10634-captscurvy_nc/)

* Plunderer
* 
* 
* Member
* 488 posts

[Posted April 26, 2011](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/17963-reptile-leather-in-the-17th-and-18th-century/&do=findComment&comment=399045) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/17963-reptile-leather-in-the-17th-and-18th-century/&do=reportComment&comment=399045)

Lots of references to crocodile shoes during the GAOP but have not found anything yet on sheaths or bags.

[**Korisios**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/11212-korisios/)

* Pyrate Captain
* 
* 
* Member
* 565 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Netherlands
* Interests:Celts BC, Guatemala, Pirats

[Posted April 26, 2011](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/17963-reptile-leather-in-the-17th-and-18th-century/&do=findComment&comment=399047) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/17963-reptile-leather-in-the-17th-and-18th-century/&do=reportComment&comment=399047)

I thinks exotic stuff would have been very much in demand and to the liking of the people of the time. Taken the fact that they also used turtle shells for cunpouder flasks and ivory for making loods of other things... Exotic woods for furniture and stuff. I would say using exotic animal skins would be in the line of these things... Never the less other than the pouderflask I would not have direct evidence...

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

* Goat Specialist
* 
* 
* Admin
* 5,082 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Monroe, MI
* Interests:Scholarly piracy, designing and creating haunted house rooms and props, movies, abstract thinking, abstruse thinking, obstructive thinking, ideating, random thinking, movies, cartoons, movies, movies scores, cycling, world peace and small furry dogs, movies, writing, drawing, personal skills training, gremlins and, of course, lest I forget, movies.

[Posted April 26, 2011](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/17963-reptile-leather-in-the-17th-and-18th-century/&do=findComment&comment=399051) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/17963-reptile-leather-in-the-17th-and-18th-century/&do=reportComment&comment=399051)

I've seen photos of extant period crocodile-skin-wrapped surgeon's pocket instrument cases. John Yonge mentions one in his book, *The Journal of James Yonge [1647-1721] Plymouth Surgeon*:

“[After capture by the Dutch, Yonge tried to retrieve some of his supplies.] I told Mr. Shepherd {who was helping Yonge] they had some of my books and my plaster box. The book, he told me, were taken away by the Lords, being journals and manuscripts, the box he would fetch me. My box was a plain thing and had but 3 silver instruments. He brought me a fine new Nisle skin [crocodile-skin] box, that he took from the chyrurgeon of the Swiftsure who died in the prison. I innocently said it was not mine, then he fetched the other, which I took, kissing his hand, bid him farewell. He often admired my honesty in refusing the better box, protesting he thought it had been mine.” (Yonge, p 99-100)

As you can see, this agrees with what Korisios said; croc-skin-wrapped items were considered more luxurious than not. However, a pirate would necessarily be attracted to such things when stealing from prisoners, so if you can find the reference you're looking for, I think you could make a case for a pirate having it.

[**Capt. Bo of the WTF co.**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/2748-capt-bo-of-the-wtf-co/)

* Scourge o' the 7 Seas
* 
* 
* Member
* 2,339 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Spanish Louisiana - on the river Osage
* Interests:Many and varied.

[Posted April 27, 2011](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/17963-reptile-leather-in-the-17th-and-18th-century/&do=findComment&comment=399159) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/17963-reptile-leather-in-the-17th-and-18th-century/&do=reportComment&comment=399159)

I had considered making a boucaneer butcher knife carriage from aligator skin, but had no references to do so. I opted for cow hide instead but the project is on hold as are a dozen others until after may 7th... GRADUATION DAY!!!

Bo