

# I am your strap & tawse...

## This is who I am...

### Straps

Generally made out of leather, the use of the strap has been one of the most common forms of domestic discipline of children ... the woodshed, the tawse, "daddy's big belt" and all that. On the other hand, it has been one of the most feared punishments in prison discipline. It was believed to be more painful but less likely to disable or do lasting damage.

The paddle-like straps are made of stiff "boot sole" leather. The more flexible straps are made of harness leather. Straps should have rounded edges to prevent welting and cutting caused by the square edge of a new strap.

### Tawse

A tawse (the plural of Scots taw, a thong of a whip) is an implement for physical punishment, called tawsing. It was used for educational and domestic discipline, primarily in Scotland.

A tawse consists of a strip of leather, with one end split into a number of tails. The thickness of the leather and the number of tails varies. The tawse can also be referred to as the belt, which is normally a term for an unforked implement, as worn in trousers.

### Slapper

A smaller version of the strap, a slapper is normally two pieces of leather stitched together. Some slappers are flexible, while others are quite stiff with the look and feel of a small paddle. Slappers can also be two-layered and are not as harsh as a single-layer strap. Having the two layers slapping against one another mitigates the force somewhat.

## This is how you use me...

It is worth reminding spankers that throughout all of the spanking the hand should be used to caress the bottom. It is very easy for constant beating to make the bottom dead and insensitive to what is happening. The best way to ensure that this does not happen is to constantly rub the buttocks with a circular motion which stimulates the bottom and re-excites it. It also prevents bruising.



### The Bottom

What a wonderful area this is. Firm well rounded cheeks with plenty of substance to absorb all the instruments, it is able to absorb punishment in almost infinite proportions and yet within days, if dealt with properly, it will be unmarked and ready for future treatment.

Where is this magic area? It is that part in the rear of the person between the upper thighs and below the small of the back.

The buttocks vary from woman to woman and they are significantly different to those of a man. Men's buttocks have less flesh on them than those of ladies and they can scar and bruise easier.

The exact area should be clearly delineated in the mind of the spanker before starting treatment - in the old days of children being caned, many teachers used to either mark the buttocks with chalk or tap the board duster on the trousers so that they only hit within the "sweet area". It is wrong to hit either above, or below the buttock area.

Those who hit on the thighs are not working within the limit set for 'maximum sensation with minimum damage' while those who hit high can easily damage the coccyx which is the 'tail' of the spine. Damage to this is usually irreversible.

Ideally the legs should be spread wide; either using a 'leg spreader' with an approximate 40cm span to keep legs spread wide, or the submissive should stand with their legs outside the legs of a chair.

Why do we do this? Through a simple test, spank your bottom with your legs together and you will find that the buttock muscles are tight. This can cause bruising when using an instrument.

Now do the same with the legs spread and you will find it impossible to tighten the muscles and the instrument falling on 'soft' buttocks means less damage and makes it possible to spank longer and harder.

The objective is to spank within the sweet area. The bottom needs to be left well reddened across the centre of the buttocks without the sides being affected by wrapping.

### Starting your strapping session

Since time immemorial a hand spank has been the weapon of choice by parents on children and by spankers on the bottom of their submissive. The hand can be a potent weapon and any spanking session should begin with a long session of it on the bottom of the spankee. Ideally it should start with a number of spanks over the clothes but soon the clothes need to be removed to access the bare bottom.

Once the submissive's bottom has been sufficiently "warmed up" with a hand spanking, you can begin with your strap or tawse.

Have the submissive bend over a chair making sure that the bottom is well presented for the strap. Do not make the chair too low or the lower thighs come into play and the target area is rather flat making it difficult to strike accurately. It can also be difficult if the spanker is much taller than the spankee as again the bottom is badly placed.

In this case it is better if the spankee is laying down flat on a table or bed with a bolster or cushion under his/ her pelvis to push the target area into an arc which makes it more accessible to the spanker. This is an excellent position as it is almost impossible to miss the correct area. It is not very often used however as traditionally the person being spanked has been bent either over a chair or to touch their toes.

By using the strap and tawse the punishment is felt across BOTH buttocks at the same time and the strap sinks into the flesh of the buttocks. For the spanker it presents a new problem, he/ she must be careful that he/ she does not wrap the strap around the submissive, hitting the sides of the body.



This is an ever present worry as it can cause damage to the sides of the buttocks, often grazing the skin. Remember that the spanker is now using an implement which is flexible thus he/ she needs to stand farther away from the spankee. The end of the strap should be halfway across the further buttock.

This is because when striking there is a natural lean in the spanker and the speed of the end which will carry the strap across to the far side of the further buttock.

Start with soft to medium strikes, and continue the caressing of the bottom to keep the nerves active between sets of blows. Increase the force and frequency of the slaps watching the colour of the behind as it turns from a light pink to a fiery red. By now the spankee is usually lying quietly

and accepting the extra force in the strokes and it is, as always, a matter of judgement how long one continues. Continue until the spankee shows excessive discomfort, but once he/ she becomes restless, stop and both of you have a rest. Remember you are trying to build up the acceptance level and peaking at this point means failure.

Throughout the administration of the strap and tawse, the submissive will feel a sharp stinging pain, which as it subsides will become an enveloping warmth.

### This is how you clean me...

Occasionally during a strapping a small amount of blood may appear on the skin as a result of a blemish being broken open, so therefore any implement, whether it be wood, plastic or leather should be disinfected after use.

A strap and tawse cannot be dipped into soapy water, as this damages and dries out the leather. The best way to clean your implements is to wipe the strap down with a damp cloth that has been soaked in Savlon, Dettol or surgical spirits, to completely disinfect the leather. You can also clean the tails with a cloth moistened with a fresh solution of bleach mixed 1 part to 10 parts water.

Then hang your implement to air dry.

Your strap and tawse should be treated with wax polish or oil-based leather dressing every three months or so to prevent cracking. Wipe the strap down with a mild glycerine soap, after which it should be treated with oil or wax dressing to prevent drying. Polishing and buffing with Dubin leather wax polish (bought from any good shoe repair store) is the best you can do to keep your leather straps soft and flexible.

Alternatively, a small amount of linseed oil on a dry cloth works really well. It is far better to clean and dress leather gently and often, rather than wait until dirt and dryness demand heroic (and usually unsatisfactory) measures.

**Have fun! Play safe!**



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