

VASS SHOES

B U D A P E S T



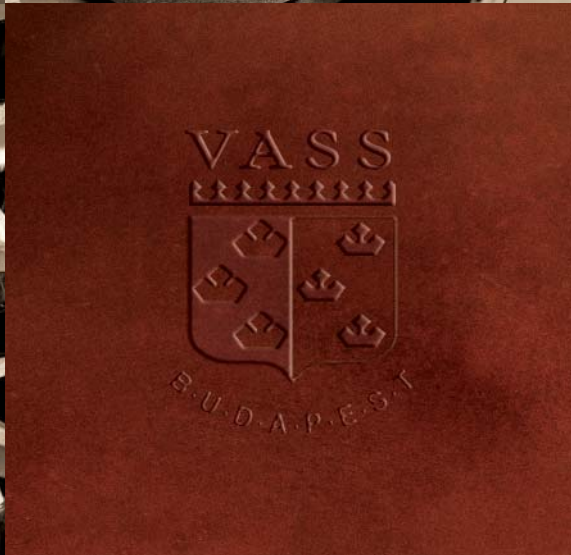


VASS SHOES

Our shop is located in the heart of Budapest's city centre, under No. 2, Haris köz. Our customers arrive from all over the world in order to buy from our range of excellent quality hand-made shoes.

László Vass, the founder and leader of our shop and workshop, belongs to a generation of shoemakers who were brave and energetic enough to go back to the roots of their craft and revive a rich, old tradition, giving the art of shoemaking new impetus in a new age. His daughter, Éva Vass contributes to the success of the enterprise with her extensive commercial knowledge and excellent command of languages in keeping in contact with our export partners, so that our exclusive original handmade shoes may be purchased in many countries.

Our main objective is to make ready-to-wear or bespoke shoes of different style, fashion that are the most comfortable, elegant and enduring. In our workshop we use the same kind of tools that shoemakers used many centuries ago, performing hundreds of meticulous operations, with great attention. High quality 1,5 mm thick leather is cut with sharp knives, perforations and patterns are made with unique precision. The upper part, which is sewn together from several parts, is stretched on the last using wooden pegs and nails and special hammers.



Our clickers are excellent experts who contribute in great degree to the preparation of nice and enduring shoes. They carefully check the quality of every single piece of leather, define the direction of stretch, then cut out the individual pieces of leather with steady hands, using a sharp knife. The clickers have to be familiar with the whole process of shoe manufacture and with the various properties of the different leathers available, since it is their responsibility to cut out punctual sizes of components from the top quality and expensive materials, with close attention.

The soul of hand-made shoes is the welt. Welted shoes are made by manually sewing first the welt, a 3mm by 18 mm leather stripe, the upper part (stretched on the last) and the insole together with perfect, even stitches. Then the welt is sewn also by hand to the simple or double sole, and finally the heel is also built to the shoe.

Reverse-welted shoes – also known as Goyser-sewn shoes – are produced by manually sewing the welt together with the upper part, then with the insole, and finally the sole is sewn together. In this case three rows of stitches is produced, giving the customer the impression of a more casual footwear, compared to the emphasized elegance of welted shoes.



On demand, we also manufacture bespoke shoes in our shop, where we also provide assistance in selecting the last that fits our customers' feet. Although each model can be manufactured in any type of last, for the derby models we recommend the "Budapest", the "3636" and the "banana" lasts, while we make the oxford models on the English-style "R" last. Other preferred lasts include the "Peter", the "new Peter" and the "Italian" lasts, on which – depending on the height of instep on the customer's feet – we make derby or oxford type shoes.

We have a wide variety of colours of calf leather: bordeaux, oxblood, cognac, 6319 cognac, red cognac, antique cognac, 6125 dark cognac, dark brown, black, blue, green, and four types scotchgrain leather (cognac, bordeaux, dark brown, black). We have the following variety of colours, from horsehide: antique cognac, bordeaux, dark brown and black. There is a selection of brown and dark brown coloured antelope leather.



◀ Budapest

M O D E L

The trademark of the high-quality design and the excellent craftsmanship of our workshop are represented by our “pride”, the Budapest model. This type of shoe may be produced on different lasts, however, the most suitable one is still the Budapest last with its high toe-cap, providing perfect comfort for the toes. It may be produced with both welted and reverse-welted technology. The toe-cap and vamp are divided by a heart-shaped row decorated by perforation, while the top of the toe-cap is distinguished by elegant patterns. Its classic design makes the shoe suitable for any occasion, and outliving different trends and turns of fashion it will be still unique and elegant after 10 or 20 years.

01 Budapest model, 3636 last, welted, combination of cognac boxcalf and cognac scotchgrain, double sole



02 Budapest model, 3636 last, welted,
cognac boxcalf, double sole

03 Budapest model, 3636 last, welted,
antique cognac boxcalf, double sole

04 Budapest model, 3636 last, welted,
brown boxcalf, double sole

05 Budapest model without brogueing,
New Peter last, welted, dark brown
velours inside out, double sole

06 Budapest model, New Peter last,
welted, black scotchgrain, double sole

07 Budapest model, 3636 last, Goyser-sewing,
yellow stitching, black boxcalf, double sole





08 Budapest model, Budapest last, welted, cognac scotchgrain, double sole



09 Budapest model, Budapest last, Goyser-sewing, combination of 6125 dark cognac boxcalf and brown scotchgrain, double sole



10 Budapest model, Budapest last, Goyser-sewing, 6319 cognac boxcalf, double sole



11 Budapest model, Budapest last, Goyser-sewing, bordeaux boxcalf, double sole



12 Budapest model, Budapest last, welted, combination of black and white boxcalf, double sole



13 Budapest model, Budapest last, Goyser-sewing, black boxcalf, double sole



❖ Budapest

L A S T

The most characteristic last of our company is the modernized successor of an old style shoe from the times of the Monarch: the “Budapest” last with its high toe-cap provides exceptional comfort for the toes. The Budapest last is suitable for the manufacture of all classic derby model shoes. In our shop, we help our customers to select the most suitable last for their feet.



14 Slipper-Norweger model, Budapest last, welted, bordeaux boxcalf, single sole

15 London model, Budapest last, Goyser-sewing, brown scotchgrain, double sole

16 Alt Wien model, Budapest last, welted, black scotchgrain, double sole

17 Norweger model, Budapest last, welted, combination of 6319 cognac boxcalf and middle brown velours, double sole





09 Budapest model, Budapest last, Goyser-sewing, combination of 6125 dark cognac boxcalf and brown scotchgrain, double sole

08 Budapest model, Budapest last, welted, cognac scotchgrain, double sole

18 Alt Wien model, Budapest last, welted, brown scotchgrain, double sole

19 London model, Budapest last, welted, black scotchgrain, double sole

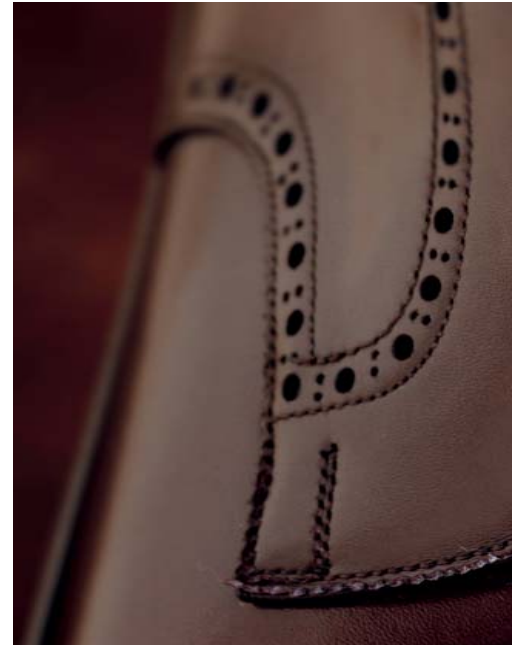


❖ Alt wien and theresianer

M O D E L S

This welted derby type, semi-brogue decorated model named after the Austrian capital city now looks back to a hundred years' tradition in Vienna. Its main characteristic, the straight row dividing the toe-cap and the vamp enables a great variety of combinations of the upper leather: the combination of the smooth and rough varieties of the same coloured leather or the combination of leathers of different surface and colour are both possible. The elegant version of the model is recommended for special occasions, while the casual version is suitable for everyday wear. The Alt Wien model and the Theresianer model, the hole-free version is usually made on our so-called "3636" last, which, as a result of its great width, its comfortable instep height and its classic, round cap formation indeed proves a very comfortable fit for everyone.

20 Alt Wien model, 3636 last, welted,
cognac boxcalf, double sole



21 Alt Wien model, 3636 last, welted,
antique cognac boxcalf, double sole

22 Alt Wien model, 3636 last, welted, combination of
brown boxcalf and brown scotchgrain, double sole

23 Alt Wien model, 3636 last, welted,
bordeaux boxcalf, double sole

24 Alt Wien model, New Peter last, welted,
black boxcalf, single sole



25 Theresianer model, 3636 last, welted,
antique cognac boxcalf, double sole



26 Theresianer model, 3636 last, welted,
brown boxcalf, double sole



27 Theresianer model, 3636 last, welted,
bordeaux boxcalf, double sole



28 Theresianer model, New Peter last, welted,
black boxcalf, single sole



For special occasions, we recommend shoes without any adornments. We have a great selection of 'plain style' shoes, ranging from classic black to a wide variety of colours and models.

29 London model, New Peter last, welted, 6319 cognac boxcalf, single sole

30 Theresianer model, 3636 last, welted, cognac boxcalf, single sole

31 Wholecut model, New Peter last, welted, cognac boxcalf, single sole

32 London Summer model, Peter last, welted, cognac boxcalf, single sole



◀ London

M O D E L

The plain Derby shoe looks almost puritanical. Its vamp is not divided, there are no decorative holes, the cap is also plain, and the quarter falls down to the sole in a single, elegantly smooth curve. The classic version is made with 5 holes on the quarter and preferred to a semi-brogue or full-brogue variety by many customers. It is made both of box and rough surface leather, welted or reverse-welted. Given its overall simplicity, the derby shoe's character is provided by the form of the last, the technology of sewing and the type of leather used.

The London model can be especially comfortable on our specially created, asymmetric "banana" last.

35 London model, banana last, welted,
bordeaux scotchgrain, double sole



33 London model, New Peter last, welted,
middle brown velours, single sole

34 London model, Budapest last, welted,
cognac boxcalf, double sole

35 London model, banana last, welted,
bordeaux scotchgrain, double sole

36 London model with stitched upper, New
Peter last, welted, 6125 dark cognac boxcalf,
single sole

37 London model with stitched upper,
New Peter last, welted, black boxcalf, single sole

38 London model, New Peter last, welted,
bordeaux boxcalf, single sole



❖ Norweger

M O D E L

The technology of this typical variety of the basic Derby model is characterized by an unusual division of the vamp and hand stitching on the upper: one seam runs at the height of about 2,5 cm parallel to the edge of the sole, the other runs vertically down to the sole at the tip of the shoe. In comparison with classic shoes, even the most elegant Norweger looks casual. The rustic character of this shoe is usually emphasized even more by the choice of materials: it is particularly popular in grained leather and often made in contrasting, sometimes startling colours. It equally and wonderfully fits traditionally cut trousers, cord pants, flannel pants and casual jeans.

Based on the experience of long years the Norweger model becomes a real classic if manufactured on our "Peter" last, since the hand-sewn vamp looks best on this symmetric last with a rounder cap form.

39 Norweger model, Peter last, welted,
bordeaux scotchgrain, double sole

40 Norweger model, Peter last, welted,
dark brown velours, double sole

41 Norweger model, Peter last, welted,
cognac boxcalf, double sole





◀ slipper

M O D E L

This welted laceless model of English origin can be easily put on with the help of a shoehorn, providing a special comfortable fit. It is made of high-quality strong leather that preserves its original shape for a long time, so one cannot accidentally step out of it in any circumstances. This model appeals to every generation. It is made with a simple sole, which, combined with its slim form that looks as if created by a natural flow, supplies the customer with a shoe that is always elegant, and with the exception of formal ball events, can be worn at any occasion, both with suits and with simple trousers. This model is often referred to as a 'pennyloafer' in England, for the simple reason that a one-penny coin can be slipped into the space between the instep and the tongue of the upper.

42 Slipper model, Peter last, welted,
oxblood boxcalf, single sole



43 Slipper model, Peter last, welted,
antique cognac boxcalf, single sole

44 Slipper I. model, New Peter last, welted,
brown scotchgrain, single sole

45 Slipper III. model, New Peter last, welted,
cognac boxcalf, single sole

46 Slipper-Budapest model with tassel,
New Peter last, welted, red cognac boxcalf, single sole



◀ oxford

M O D E L S

The Oxford is by far the most elegant, typically English shoe with closed lacing. It looks especially good on narrow feet with a low instep. Since the shoe is virtually continued in pants, it is vitally important that the two items are in harmony. The combination of a black suit and a pair of Oxford shoes guarantees the wearer a distinguished appearance on any occasions. It displays good taste when a cognac, antique cognac or oxblood shoe is combined with a plain coloured suit. We have created our English-type, elongated, flat "R" last especially for the Oxford cut.

47 Budapest-Oxford model, R last, welted,
bordeaux boxcalf, single sole



53 Alt Englisch Plain model,
R last, welted, black boxcalf,
single sole

51 Budapest-Oxford model,
R last, welted, black boxcalf,
single sole

48 Wholecut model, New Peter
last, welted, black boxcalf,
single sole

49 Wholecut Medalion model,
New Peter last, welted,
black boxcalf, single sole



50 Budapest-Oxford model, R last, welted,
bordeaux boxcalf, single sole

51 Budapest-Oxford model, R last, welted,
black boxcalf, single sole



52 Alt Englisch Plain model, R last, welted, cognac boxcalf, single sole

53 Alt Englisch Plain model, R last, welted, black boxcalf, single sole

54 Alt Englisch model, Peter last, welted, bordeaux boxcalf, double sole

55 Alt Englisch Plain model, R last, welted, antique cognac boxcalf, single sole

56 Alt Englisch Plain model, Peter last, welted, brown boxcalf, double sole

57 Alt Englisch model, Peter last, welted, black boxcalf, double sole



❖ wholecut

M O D E L

In case of our wholecut shoe models, the upper part is made of only one piece of leather. Our wholecut shoes are exclusively elegant, thanks to the quality leather and the beautifully formed last as well as the precise and accurate manual work.



58 Wholecut model, New Peter last, welted, black boxcalf, single sole

59 Wholecut Medalion model, New Peter last, welted, black boxcalf, single sole



60 Wholecut model, New Peter last, welted, 6319 cognac boxcalf, single sole



◀ italian

M O D E L



As a result of our cooperation with Roberto Ugolini, a shoe craftsman from Florence, and based on new designer impulses and on demands of our customers, we have created a new, Italian style range of lasts and model collection within our existing classic models and last types. The foundation of the cooperation was provided by an order received from the Iseatan company in Tokyo, which intended to expand its shoe collection with a high-quality product that combines the shoe craftsman tradition – which is gradually fading away all over the world – with a dynamic Italian design. To their honour, we have named our new 'Japanese' lasts 'U – Ugolini' for square toe shoes, and 'F – Firenze' for round toe shoes.

61 Old English II. model, F last, welted, combination of brown boxcalf and brown scotchgrain, single sole



62 Old English Plain model, F last, welting, black boxcalf, Italian polish, single sole



63 Italian-Oxford model, F last, welting, 6125 dark cognac boxcalf, Italian polish, single sole



64 Double Monk model, F last, welting, bordeaux boxcalf, Italian polish, single sole



65 Old English II. model, F last, welting, brown boxcalf, Italian polish, single sole



66 Italian-Oxford model with toe cap, F last, welting, oxblood boxcalf, Italian polish, single sole



67 3-yelet London model, F last, welting, 6125 dark cognac boxcalf, Italian polish, single sole

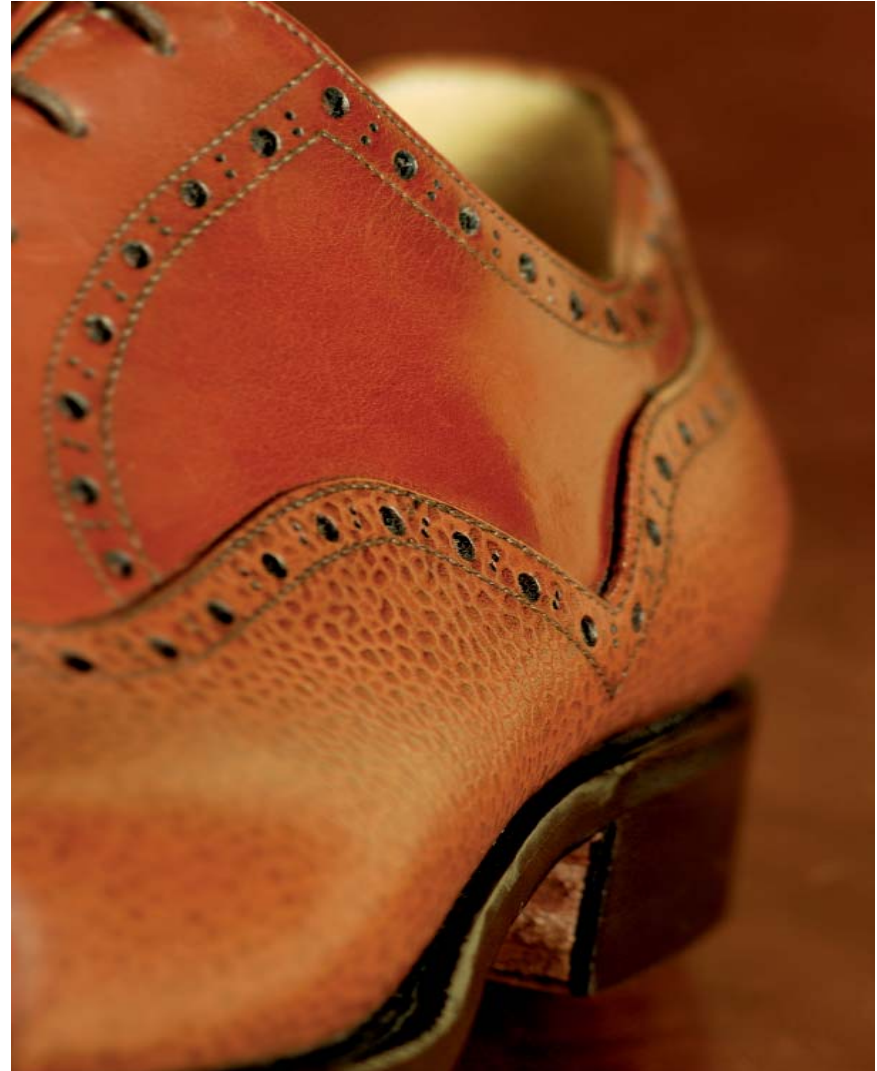


62 Old English Plain model,
F last, welted, black boxcalf,
Italian polish, single sole

63 Italian-Oxford model, F last,
welted, 6125 dark cognac boxcalf,
Italian polish, single sole

65 Old English II. model, F last,
welted, brown boxcalf,
Italian polish, single sole

66 Italian-Oxford model with toe cap,
F last, welted, oxblood boxcalf,
Italian polish, single sole



68 Monk model, U last, welted, black boxcalf, single sole

69 3-eyelet London model, U last, welted, cognac boxcalf, single sole

70 Slipper model with stitched upper, U last, welted, 6319 cognac boxcalf, single sole



71 Old English Plain model,
U last, welted, black boxcalf,
single sole

72 London Boot with stitched
upper, U last, welted,
bordeaux boxcalf, single sole

73 London model with stitched
upper, U last, welted, brown boxcalf,
single sole

78 Oxford Medalion model,
U last, welted, black boxcalf,
single sole



74 Budapest-Oxford model, U last, welted,
oxblood boxcalf, single sole

75 Budapest-Oxford model, U last, welted,
cognac boxcalf, single sole

76 Old English Medalion model, U last,
welted, black boxcalf, single sole

77 Old English model, U last, welted,
6125 dark cognac boxcalf, single sole

78 Oxford Medalion model, U last, welted,
black boxcalf, single sole

79 London model with stitched upper, U last,
welted, bordeaux boxcalf, single sole



HORWEEN LEATHER CO.
HORWEEN
GENUINE SHELL
CORDOVAN
CHICAGO, ILL. U.S.A.



◀ cordovan

S H O E S

Fine horse leather is known as Cordovan. A special tanning process based on the use of plant extracts that lasts for a six-month period (invented in Chicago a century ago) is still used today to create excellent quality. Only a small part of the horse-skin is adequate for making shoes: the strongest surface of the rear provides leather for only one pair of shoes. Because of its silky shining surface and its easy handling the Cordovan is the most exclusive leather for all classic models: with or without decorations, in one colour or in colour combinations it provides an exclusive elegance for its wearer. With proper care, a shoe made of Cordovan with time becomes more and more mature, both in colour and texture.

80 Alt Wien model, 3636 last, welted,
bordeaux cordovan, double sole

81 London model, banana last, welted,
bordeaux cordovan, double sole

82 Theresianer model, 3636 last, welted,
bordeaux cordovan, double sole

83 Budapest model, 3636 last, welted,
bordeaux cordovan, double sole

◀ the winter and the summer

We offer a variety of seasonal shoes: summer footwear made of lighter raw materials and richly perforated as well as plain or decorated ankle boots for the winter. Part of the models displayed here is available in our shop, or may be ordered to be specially made, supplied with rubber soles for the cold season.



84 Alt Wien model, 3636 last, welted,
bordeaux boxcalf, Vibram sole



85 Boot, New Peter last, welted, dark brown velours, single sole



86 Boot, Peter last, welted, 6319 cognac boxcalf, double sole



87 Norweger Boot, Peter last, Goyser-sewing, 6125 dark cognac boxcalf, Vibram sole



88 Theresianer High Boot, 3636 last, Goyser-sewing, brown scotchgrain, Vibram sole



89 Theresianer High Boot, 3636 last, welted, antique cognac boxcalf, double sole



90 Budapest golf shoes, 3636 last, Goyser-sewing, combination of 6319 cognac boxcalf and white boxcalf, golf double sole



91 London Summer model, Peter last, welled, bordeaux boxcalf, single sole



92 London Summer model, Peter last, welled, cognac boxcalf, single sole



93 Theresianer model, 3636 last, welled, combination of cognac boxcalf and cognac woven leather, single sole



94 London woven model, Peter last, welled, bordeaux woven leather, single sole



95 London woven model, Peter last, welled, black woven leather, single sole



96 Budapest model, New Peter last, welled, combination of dark blue boxcalf and dark blue woven leather, single sole



◀ shoes for women

We created our collection of shoes for women with the intention to provide footwear for our customers that serve them for long years, as a result of the hand-made technology and the high-quality materials and manufacture technique. Women shoes are always more dependent on trends of fashion, however, there are some classic models that may still be perfect accessories to the elegant and sophisticated style.

Therefore, we created our range of women shoe models for the varied colour- and leather combinations of the traditional Budapest, London, Norweger and Slipper models, that may be manufactured – depending on taste and level of comfort – on our “3636”, “new Peter” and “Budapest” lasts. A talented designer, Petra Bánsági helps us to create and design women’s shoes, to expand the collection and to handle different demands from our female customers.

97 Budapest model, lady New Peter last,
welted, antique cognac boxcalf



98 Budapest model, lady New Peter last, welted, oil green boxcalf



99 Budapest model, lady New Peter last, welted, middle brown velours



100 Budapest model, lady New Peter last, welted, black boxcalf



101 Slipper model, lady 3636 last, welted, khaki boxcalf



102 Alt Wien model, lady 3636 last, welted, combination of antique cognac and creme boxcalf



103 London model, lady 3636 last, welted, antique cognac boxcalf



104 Norweger model, lady 3636 last, welted,
black scotchgrain, Vibram sole

105 Budapest model, lady 3636 last, welted,
black boxcalf, Vibram sole



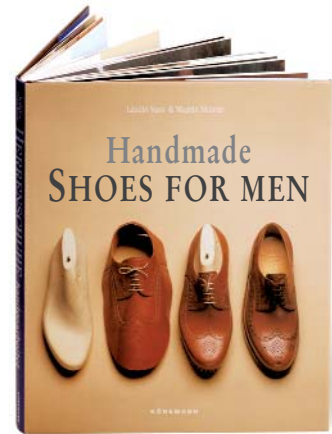
❖ Bespoke

S H O E S



On demand, we also manufacture bespoke shoes in our shop. During the last century, a hand-made shoe that perfectly fitted its wearer – that met the highest quality standards, therefore lasted for decades if treated suitably with shoe tree and repaired regularly – used to be a natural clothing item of a decent man. Today, its exclusivity and luxury is emphasized, although this traditional shoe made carefully after measurement may be worn for many years, as opposed to big-volume shoes that always change according to trends of fashion.

The measurement is a process, which, besides taking the exact measures and drawing of the feet also includes gathering thorough information from the customer on his customs, lifestyle and experiences related to his shoes. The ideal time for taking measurements is the morning period (on appointment) because the feet is more relaxed this time of the day. We prepare the bespoke shoe within six weeks, after which we inform our Customer and invite him to our shop to put on his first pair of bespoke shoes, when we can check the result of our work together. If the customer found that the last we made specially for him after his measures produced a satisfactory pair of shoes, we keep it for three years after his last order, so that he may order another pair of shoe from our catalogue or by visiting our shop, which we also deliver for him when it is ready.



❖ Accessories

We have a selection of waist-belts made of the leather of the shoes in colours ranging from antique cognac, brown, bordeaux and black calf leather as well as from scotchgrain leather in cognac, brown, bordeaux and black, between sizes 85 to 115.

The German Könemann Publishing company published the long-awaited book written by László Vass and Magda Molnár on handmade shoes. The book describes this old craftsmanship in professional and accurate detail. Its success is clearly proven by the fact that it has been already translated into eight languages on demand from all over the world.

Shoe type (model, last, technology)	Leather	Size	Date of purchase



V A S S S H O E S

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