CONSIDERATIONS WHEN SELECTING ADHESIVES FOR LEATHER CONSERVATION		
Much the same as for any other conservation, with some specific needs. There is NO one adhesive which would be suitable for everything.		
Must consider condition of the leather/type of tannage (if any)/use of object after conservation and always TEST FIRST		
Type	Thermoplastic Solvent Reactive	No water - so a possible solution for deteriorated leather Which solvent - not acetone on leather; white spirit OK; think about painted surfaces and finishes which may be solvent based/reversible; remember water is a solvent) Not usually used in leather conservation (eg two part epoxies)
Glass transition temperature/melting point		Where is artefact going to be used - eg car in South of France
Reversibility or re-treatability		Important conservation consideration
Ageing properties	Discolouration Shrinkage Embrittlement Cross-linkage Durability	
Health and safety considerations	Toxicity	Conservator has to be safe as well as object
Shrinkage on setting		Too much shrinkage could cause repair to fail
Strength of bond	Shear Tensile Cleavage Peel Sacrificial repair	Which is likely mode of breaking? Do you want adhesive to fail or repair material to fail - not original material to split?

Surface area available		How large or small the surface area available will affect the bond strength
Visual appearance		Is adhesive likely to be seen when dry?
Moisture content		Particularly important for leather (especially if deteriorated)
Flexibility		Leather expands and contracts and objects in use might be opened/closed, etc.
Drying time or tack time		Can be important on 3D objects - can be difficult to hold in position
pH		New leather has a pH around 4.5, which often lowers with age/deterioration. An alkaline adhesive could have an adverse reaction.
Viscosity	Less viscous will spread more thinly	How far does it penetrate - how far do you want it to penetrate?
Molecular weight		Higher molecular weights generally afford higher adhesion
Particle size		
Cost, availability and shelf life		Not most important but may need to be taken into consideration
Note - combining adhesives - mixes can give you the best of both worlds eg PVA and wheat starch paste		

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