


# Chapter 5

## Ensuring Halal Compliance in the Leather Industry: Standards, Practices, and Certification


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### ABSTRACT

*This Chapter explores how leather products can meet halal standards. It serves as a guide for industry professionals to ensure halal compliance from sourcing raw materials to final processing and certification, addressing the increasing global demand for halal products. The chapter specifically examines halal standards in Indonesia, which prohibits leather from dogs and pigs and mandates that products remain free from haram contamination. It discusses halal-compliant processing methods, focusing on permissible tanning techniques and the use of additives that*

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*do not contain haram substances. An overview of halal certification procedures is provided, detailing compliance criteria and the role of certifying bodies in verifying halal status. The chapter acknowledges challenges such as sourcing halal materials, production costs, and contamination risks, offering practical solutions for manufacturers. Ultimately, it aims to equip businesses with the knowledge needed to meet halal standards, ensuring consumer trust and enhancing market competitiveness.*

## **1. THE CONTEXT OF HALAL LEATHER: BACKGROUND AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES**

The awareness of Muslims to consume halal products continues to rise, in line with the deepening understanding of Sharia teachings, especially regarding the halal and haram status of a product. This trend is evident not only in the food and beverage sector but also in cosmetics and consumables. Over the past three decades, the halal food market has experienced significant growth, particularly in Muslim-majority countries such as Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, and the Middle East region. In addition to food, consumable products such as halal fashion, pharmaceuticals, and cosmetics have also shown rapid increases. In the context of Sharia, the term halal comes from Arabic, meaning allowed or permissible according to Islamic law. When applied to pharmaceutical products, food, or beverages, this term affirms that the products are safe and suitable for consumption by Muslims in accordance with religious provisions (Kasri et al., 2023; Rafiki et al., 2023).

Islam is the second-largest religion in the world and is experiencing the fastest growth globally. In addition to being a faith that regulates worship rituals, Islam also offers a comprehensive worldview. Its teachings encompass various aspects of life, including the consumption of halal products, which is considered a form of worship to Allah and is as important as other ritual acts of devotion. The principles of Islam encourage Muslims to use products that meet halal criteria, meaning they are permissible and lawful according to Islamic law. For a Muslim, it is their duty to consume or use any products that are halal. For non-Muslim consumers, halal food or products are often viewed as those that meet the highest quality standards. The concept of halal can be examined from three main perspectives: religious and economic. From a religious standpoint, Allah commands all of humanity—both Muslims and non-Muslims—to consume food that is halal and tayyib (good and wholesome). This is explained in Surah Al-Baqarah, verse 168, which states: “O mankind, eat from that which is lawful and good from the earth, and do not follow the footsteps of Satan; indeed, he is to you a manifest enemy.”

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