



# J.P.L.C.

J. Panther Luggage Co.™

designed with integrity, crafted with pride, built for life in the U.S.A.

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**stories**

[jpantherluggage.com](http://jpantherluggage.com)



## the ingredients

J. Panther Luggage Co.™ makes no compromises in sourcing optimum ingredients. We utilize a heavy duty 21 oz **canvas** produced in Scotland to military specifications and used by the British military and other defense forces worldwide. Lightly waxed and highly engineered to withstand the most extreme climatic conditions, over time it develops a character that reflects usage while still maintaining strength. One of our engineers tells us how some of this material once ended up getting dragged along outside his snow mobile

at 75 mph, yet suffered no damage whatsoever.

**Leather** comes from Chicago's Horween tannery (horween.com) and is made from 100% North American hides. Established in 1905 Horween is renowned for its Cordovan leather which is a staple of European luxury brands, and at the other end of the spectrum also supplies ball leather to the N.B.A. and N.F.L. Leather used in our products is the result of traditional processes and thus rich in oils, fats,

extracts and aniline dyes. It is extremely durable (including water resistant) and ages beautifully with prolonged use. The main shell of our all-leather items is the result of a leather-working process known as 'hot stuffing'. Developed almost a century ago this technique results in an 'oily' leather that changes in tone slightly when bent; referred to as 'pull up'. This tanning process allows the hide's true character - including grain, marks, and scars - to show through to the surface. Eschewing the surface buffing or correcting that is common in lower grade leather production, we advocate using these beautiful 'marked' parts of the hide since this emphasizes the natural origin of the material and renders each item truly unique while also minimizing wastage.

**Hardware** such as D-rings and base studs is 100% solid brass throughout, with internal reinforcement in key areas to help prevent hardware wearing away surrounding leather. Shoulder strap **webbing** on the Aviator is 100% nylon, shuttle-loomed in Pennsylvania U.S.A. to a 'critical use' military specification. **Zippers** are YKK made, in our opinion the world's most dependable. Much thought has even gone into selecting the optimum **thread**: 100% bonded heavyweight nylon.



## the aviator

Named after the veteran artisan who manufactures this piece, a longtime amateur pilot who considers it ideal to take with him on his flights over New England. It is, he tells us, the most heavily engineered item he's ever worked on. The Aviator is a conscious attempt to create something outside the well-established genres of luggage. But not just for the sake of it. Simply, we identified a need for a smaller bag for when you're carrying small items too numerous for pockets, but for which a messenger-sized bag would be overkill. Phone; keys; camera; headphones; notepad; bike lock and so on.

The Aviator's military feel, and the way that it opens out in a book-like manner, derives from our initial inspiration: some WW2 vintage European map cases that had landed up in Osaka, Japan. This inspiration also informs the interior, particularly the detachable leather document wallet that is a noteworthy piece in its own right. It's perfect for storing passports and other travel documents that need to be kept safe yet also presented numerous times when flying.



Carry is three-way. The shoulder strap, made of nylon webbing shuttle-loomed in Pennsylvania to 'critical use' military spec, can be D-ring attached to carry the Aviator either horizontally or vertically. And a third option is via a leather wrist strap that can be detached and used as a lanyard/key strap. The grade of nylon used for the shoulder strap allows it to be thin enough to stash inside the Aviator when using wrist carry, while still maintaining great durability.

The Aviator is available in both all-leather and canvas versions. See 'Ingredients' story for more about our materials...



## the ruc tote

Our Ruc Tote is an attempt to create the most functional tote bag possible whilst achieving a clean, elegant silhouette. A unique three-way carry system allows it to be worn as a ruck or slung across a shoulder as well as toted. Yet its simplicity of design avoids the impression of different forms thrown together. Inspiration was simple: frustration at the unwieldiness of a regular tote bag when out on a bicycle. This led to a lengthy period of development where over some nine prototypes we developed the Ruc Tote's carry system: external leather tote handles usable for both hand and shoulder carry, with one of these neatly doubling up as a pair of back straps for ruck carry.

Additionally, a shorter second pair of handles stitched inside the Ruc Tote provide more comfortable carry when the bag is heavily loaded. We've avoided the confusion of detail that is common in multi-function designs. Strap length and positioning on the wearer's back have been carefully worked out to enable the Ruc Tote to comfortably suit all heights and builds, without requiring any adjustability or other design complications.



This cleanly-executed functionality is not the whole story. Equal effort has gone into refining the silhouette into something that is both rugged and elegant, distinct from the 'boxiness' of many totes. Our use of an all-weather military-spec 21 oz canvas enables the Ruc Tote to keep its shape no matter how full or empty it is.

Befitting a bag crafted from such material the Ruc Tote can be zipped fully closed for protection against the elements, via a 10-gauge 100% brass zipper. Both internally and externally, side pockets are stitched a few inches above the base of the bag to provide protection for fragile items when placing the bag down on hard surfaces.



## the **perfect weekender**

Inspired by the lines of classic sports holdalls, the Perfect Weekender brings greater functionality to the form while adding a luxury feel that you wouldn't normally associate with such a silhouette. But this is a rugged kind of luxury, that inspires confidence to truly let the bag take whatever life throws at it. It will only look better with age, and with wear.

Its ample storage consists of two main interior compartments, one zipping open all the way to the base with double-headed two-way zips. Of ideal size for a laptop or documents, this section also makes whatever else is stashed inside easy to locate. Inside these two main compartments you'll find a number of smaller zip-away sections designed to accommodate whatever accoutrements you bring along with you. A zip-through side pocket on the front provides additional easy-access storage, while the detachable canvas shoulder strap allows hands-free carry when you need it. The included leather key strap, also usable on



its own, connects to a D-ring inside the bag for secure yet quick-access storage of your keys. A luggage tag, like the Perfect Weekender itself crafted from premium Horween leather, is also included. Six durable brass studs in the base mean that, again, this is bag you needn't be precious with in use.

Crafted by artisans with decades of experience of working leather into this kind of shape, the Perfect Weekender is the result of our designer-founder spending time overseas studying under some real 'old masters' of leather bag design. The Horween leather used was chosen not only for its great durability and beauty, but also for the fact that it enables the bag to hold its shape even when empty or partially full. Yet at 7 lbs in weight, it is no heavyweight despite its rugged construction.

Meeting current international size regulations for carry-on luggage, the Perfect Weekender is just the right fit for a quick escape out of town...



## the life tote

A favorite with our female customers, the Life Tote is a simple tote bag design that boasts the same mix of graceful lines and ruggedness as our Ruc Tote. Its roomy storage is sufficient for all that you need for a day at work or at leisure. A 17" notebook computer can be comfortably accommodated when placed vertically inside.

Its weather-proofed 21 oz canvas body holds its elegant shape whether empty or fully loaded, while dual leather tote handles (longer on the exterior, with shorter handles stitched internally) provide versatile carry either by hand or slung on one shoulder.

Premium Horween leather and 100% solid brass hardware throughout, combined with our military-grade canvas, make this a tote more than able to take whatever your life may throw at it...

**J.P.L.C.**  
**J.PANTHER LUGGAGE CO.**  
**NEW YORK**  
**REGISTERED**  
**HANDMADE IN U.S.A**

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