



Review: Veluokldly Hartmann-Style Leather Jacket

A hands-on review and comparison with Five Star Leather and Eastman Leather Clothing

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This is another installment in my series of reviews of Chinese-made leather jackets. I started this project because I wanted to see for myself how well the lower-priced Chinese makers stack up, especially when it comes to leather, construction, pattern and value. I have covered other models previously, but this installment is a little different: it is both a review of my new Veluokldly and a comparison of three makers offering the Hartmann-style jacket.

The three are Veluokldly, Five Star Leather and Eastman. I own and have worn the Veluokldly, and I own a special-order Five Star. I do NOT own an Eastman Hartmann, although I have been watching for a used size 40 or 42. So my comments on Eastman’s specific Hartmann model are based on photographs and listed measurements, not a firsthand wear test.

First impression — I like this one. A lot.

The Veluokldly was seamlessly ordered from Sammy at Crush on Retro, all-inclusive at \$305 delivered and turned up in only 12 days. It was advertised as horsehide, and the leather looked good right out of the package. More importantly, it looked like the jacket in the seller’s photos. Unlike my Five Star, where the jacket I received did not match the proportions I thought I was ordering, the Veluokldly arrived looking the way I expected. I am extremely satisfied. My experience with Sammy at Crush encouraged me to participate in a crowd-funded jacket project.

There was a mild chemical smell when I opened the package. It was neither strong nor unpleasant. My girlfriend actually liked it and said it smelled like a new furniture store! I wore the jacket constantly for about a week, took it on a trip, and the smell has largely faded. It now wears beautifully.



Veluokldly XL, photographed after arrival — the short, neat silhouette is what I hoped for.



The big story: pattern, fit and the cropped look

This is the biggest difference to me — bigger than zippers, lining or even the leather. The crop of the Veluokldly is exactly the fit I have been looking for. It is trim without demanding an Apollo physique. I'm roughly a size 41 chest, and the XL works very nicely with my build. It has enough room where I need it, but it does not turn into a long leather tube below the chest.

I have own jackets from Rainbow Country and Eastman California, among others, and some beautiful patterns are less forgiving on a normal, not-quite-athletic body. Veluokldly has somehow arrived at a shape that is comfortable, cropped and still flattering. I have now worn it long enough to know this was not just a good first try-on.

The Five Star was a special order from Shawn: size Small (intended for about a 41–43-inch chest), with sleeves lengthened by $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. I ordered it in December 2025 before the tariffs. It arrived around 1–2 inches longer in the body than advertised, which made the torso look longer than I wanted. The jacket has never been worn outdoors or broken in; it has mostly hung in the closet. If I reordered, I would ask for the body to be cut shorter even than the stated length.

Eastman's Hartmann is still on my list, but every used size 40 or 42 I have considered seems not quite right on measurements. My fear is from the photos it also appears rather long in the torso as well. That is a personal fit preference, not a claim that Eastman's pattern is wrong.

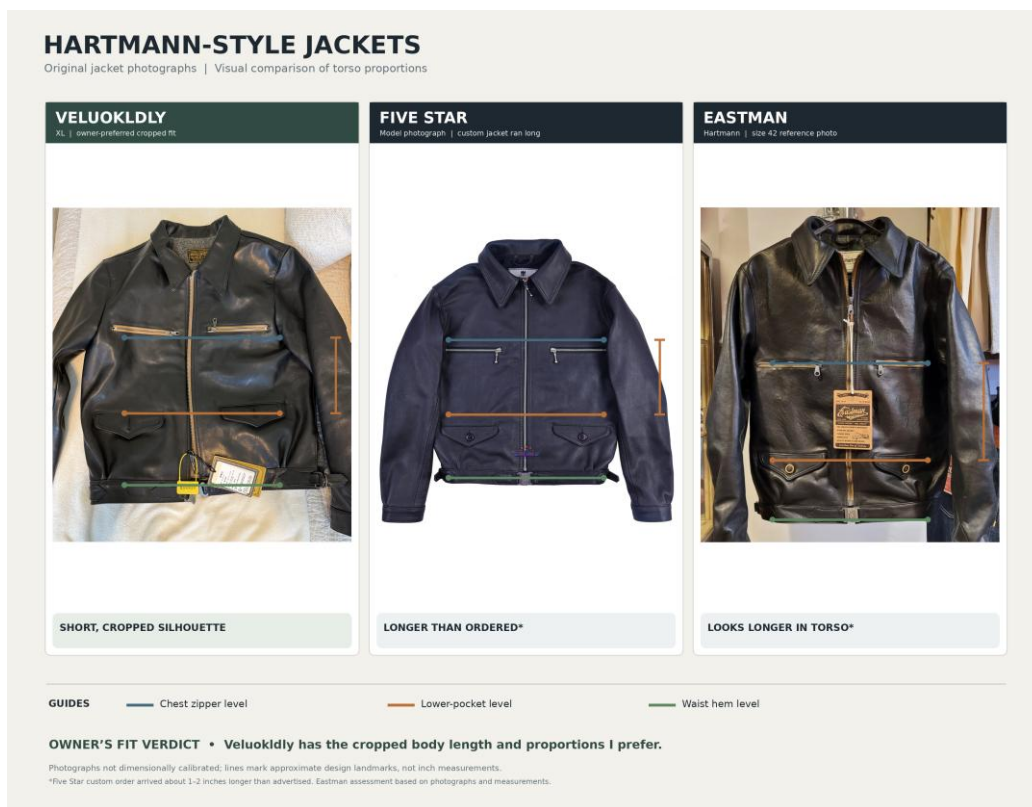


Fig. 1 — Original maker photographs with horizontal pocket/zipper guide lines. Visual proportions only; images are not to the same physical scale.

The guide lines are there to make a visual point about pocket placement, torso space and apparent crop, not to prove a specific difference in inches. For me, the Veluokldly simply looks and wears shorter in the right places.



Three jackets at a glance

Detail	Veluokldly XL	Five Star Small (custom)	Eastman 42 (reference)
My experience	Owned; worn for a week and on a trip. Quickly becoming my favorite go to.	Owned; not worn outdoors or broken in. Fit just not right on me. Better for slimmer physic.	Not owned; resale listings monitored. However urgency is gone as Velu fills the void.
Price	\$305 delivered	\$350 + \$60 shipping = \$410 (Currently for resale on Fedora - Link)	Typically, \$800-1000 used
Leather	Advertised horsehide; Very nice medium to light thickness and similar to the Jiashi. I really like the hide.	Ordered seal horsehide; looks/feels more like cowhide to me. Seemingly least quality.	Looks superior in available photos; and is so in my other makes (Californian, Roadstar, A-2 warhorse)
Body / crop	Exactly the cropped fit I want	Arrived approximately 1–2 in longer than advertised	Looks longer than I prefer in photographs
Chest / nominal fit	XL; excellent fit on roughly size-41 build	Small; ordered for 41–43 in chest	Size 42; measured 57 cm pit-to-pit
Hardware	YKK zips; tan/desert-yellow tape nice contrast; complex waist clasp better if more authentic	Better, Preferred chain-style pulls and authentic looking waistband hardware	Attractive traditional presentation in photos
Lining	Gray woven body lining	Special-order tartan wool body; cotton sleeves (Excellent)	Not assessed in person

Eastman size-42 listing used for reference: shoulder 49 cm (19.3 in); pit-to-pit 57 cm (22.4 in); bottom hem 48 cm (18.9 in), with adjusters; back length 63 cm (24.8 in); sleeves 65 cm (25.6 in). Veluokldly measures out as advertised.

VELUOKLDLY XL

FIVE STAR II MODEL PHOTO

EASTMAN II HARTMANN PHOTO



Cyclist jacket

Original photographs only — three manufacturers. Photos are not scaled to identical garment dimensions. The fivestar leather did not present as in this photo from the website (see pictures next page).



Leather and construction

The Veluokldly leather is advertised as horsehide. I have not found a hide identification mark, and a smooth finish, drape, stiffness and feel all point to it being a quality hide. This particular jacket has a good substantial feel, attractive smooth grain, and a finish I like, equal quality to the Jiashi leather and slightly better than earlier reviewed Veluokldly ½ belt. The leather is also heavier to the hand than the leather on my similar Eastman California and Roadstar jackets. Not automatically make it better leather, but it is an interesting comparison.

Judging only from photographs, the leather on the Eastman Hartmann looks superior. That said, the Veluokldly is good-quality leather in its own right, certainly for this price. I was considerably less impressed by the seal-colored “horsehide” I ordered on the Five Star: it looks and feels more like cowhide to me. Again, that is a collector’s impression, not an independently verified species identification.

Stitching on the Veluokldly generally looks neat. One detail caught my eye: the top of the sleeve attachment is visibly topstitched, while the lower armhole uses what appears to be a turned, internally sewn seam. I do not see that as automatically inferior construction; it may be a deliberate choice for assembly and flexibility. The collar and pocket flaps are clean, and the lower-pocket buttons appear to be horn — a nice touch.

Hardware: the Five Star gets a win here

I like the tan/desert-yellow zipper tape against the Veluokldly’s black leather. The YKK zippers are a practical choice, but visually I would rather have the chain-style pulls seen on Five Star. The Veluokldly’s waist closure is an unnecessarily elaborate locking buckle. It feels nicely made, but I prefer the simpler hardware used by the other jacket. This is not even a case where Veluokldly obviously saved money; it looks like they chose extra complexity for no real benefit.

The Five Star does better with these details. I also got to specify the lining: tartan wool in the body and cotton in the sleeves. I took that idea from an original WWII relic. I really like the result, and the photos below show why.



Five Star detail photographs: special-order tartan body lining and cotton sleeve lining (left); metal zippers with chain-style pulls (right).



Value, expectations and where I land

My Five Star cost \$350 plus \$60 shipping, \$410 all in (but prior to tariffs). Shawn (as always – responsive and good customer service) handled the special order, and the custom lining and hardware are the jacket's strong points. But I prefer the stiffer black of Veluokldly, the jacket was longer than I expected, and it has never made it into my regular rotation. The website picture set my expectations one way; the delivered jacket did not meet them in fit and appearance. I really love how it looks but this jacket would be a better fit on taller and slimmer person.

With Veluokldly, the opposite happened. The jacket looked like its photographs, arrived in 12 days for \$305 delivered, and — most important — felt right the minute I put it on. After a week of steady wear, that impression has only improved. At \$105 less than the Five Star cost me, it is a very easy jacket to recommend based on my experience with this example. It looks like a \$1,000 jacket and I got several compliments. I have no issues slipping on this jacket or one of my many Aero Leathers to go out with a classy clean new jacket look.

This is also worth mentioning: an earlier secondhand Veluokldly half-belt I reviewed did not impress me nearly as much. The construction and leather on this Hartmann are noticeably better. Two jackets do not make a statistical trend, and a used jacket is not a perfect apples-to-apples test, but I have to wonder whether the maker is improving over time.

I am not saying Veluokldly beats Eastman in materials or craftsmanship. I have not owned an Eastman Hartmann to test that. Nor am I saying Five Star makes bad jackets. I like elements of mine very much. I am saying that, for my build and tastes, the Veluokldly nailed the pattern, crop, comfort and overall look better than my Five Star, and looks more attractive to me than the longer Eastman silhouette in the sale listings I have studied.

My report card — this Veluokldly example

Leather / finish: A- | Pattern & fit: A+ | Construction: A-

Lining: C+ | Hardware B | Period look: B- | Value: A+

Overall: A — very satisfied; now getting real use

Bottom line: If you share my taste for a properly cropped Hartmann-style jacket, do not overlook this one because of the price or country of manufacture. Check the actual measurements, of course, but this is the jacket I reach for — and that is really the point of buying one. I now no longer have the urgency to buy an Eastman Hartmann and take a risk on fit.



Veluokldly XL — photographic details

Actual jacket photos: fit, collar, chest hardware, stitching, cuffs, waist adjusters and lining.



Nine original photos, no AI reconstruction. CWC / Christy Watch Company review series.