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- Care & Maintenance



LEATHER 101

BASIC CARE OF LEATHER

- Keep leather looking new by vacuuming or dusting with a clean, dry cloth weekly.
- If necessary, gently wipe spots with clean cloth and lukewarm water (not applicable for all leathers).
- If the stain persists, use a mild soap & dry any excess moisture w/ a clean cloth immediately (not applicable for all leathers).
- Never allow spills to set.

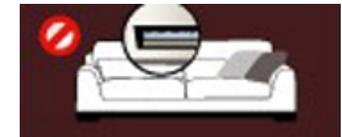


- Never use detergents or alcohol-based products to clean spots.
- Avoid the use of ANY chemical polishes or soaps.



- Do not place leather goods in direct sunlight. Take caution when placing leather furniture near windows. All natural leather may fade.

- Avoid placing your furniture near sources of excessive heat, take care not to place your furniture less than 2 feet away from a radiator or similar heat source.



- Avoid the use of sharp objects on or near the leather furniture.
- Consult a professional if you use commercial leather cleaners, not all cleaners are recommended for all leathers.

- **GENERAL CARE AND MAINTENANCE**

Leather upholstered furniture should require little or no care under most normal household conditions. It is the most durable and strongest material used for the upholstery of furniture. Although leather is the most durable upholstery material available, leathers will stain or change in character from food and liquid spills, or from body oils. In order to keep your leather product looking beautiful, please refer to cleaning instructions found under each specific leather classification.

No matter how much care is taken with your fine home furnishings, a certain amount of degradation will occur from environmental or mechanical conditions existing within your home. The following are some examples and what can be done to minimize the damage.

- **DIRECT SUNLIGHT**

Ultra-violet rays in sunlight will eventually result in fading for most fabrics, and leathers. Some leathers perform better than others in direct sunlight.

- **ABRASIVES AND CLEANING SOLUTIONS**

Saddle soap, oils, detergents, furniture polish, abrasive cleaning solvents or ammonia should never be used to clean upholstery leather. The majority of spills on your leather upholstery require only gentle wiping. Always remember that vigorous rubbing can damage the surface.

- **HEAT SOURCES**

It is not recommended to place your leather furniture near strong heat sources such as a fireplace, radiators, or direct sunlight. Such heat can dry out the natural oils in leather and cause stiffness and cracking.

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Leather Disclaimer

- Leather is a natural product produced as a by-product of animal hides (mostly cows, steer, and water buffalo). Due to the life-style of the animals, leather will always have natural markings such as brands, insect bites, scars, fat wrinkles, stretch marks, abrasions, and burns. These natural markings are not considered defects but rather are indications of true full top grain leather.
- Some natural markings may be less evident in leathers that have had the top grain altered via sanding processes and then covered up with pigments. These leathers tend to be more uniform in color and texture but sacrifice the natural softness and raw beauty of the product.
- Most high quality leathers are only stained with translucent dyes that allow all the natural beauty of the leather to show including the markings mentioned above.
- In addition to these distinct characteristics, the leather may also vary (some-times excessively) in dye lot coloration, much like the staining of wood products. Some leathers such as "pull-ups" (leather with waxes and oils pressed into the surface) are created to enhance this dye variation and will become extreme as the leather is pulled over upholstered frames.
- **Natural markings and dye lot variations are in no way considered defects. It is a common policy to accept no returns on product for any reason where the cause is due to the nature of this product.**

“PIGMENTED/EMBOSSSED” CORRECTED LEATHERS

The hide selection for this type of leather includes those which have extreme amounts of scars and markings. First, the surface of the leather is heavily sanded to remove the excess scars, insect bites, or other noticeable imperfections. Corrected Top Grains receive an opaque protective top coat of solid color referred to as pigment. This gives the hide an even, consistent coloration throughout. Any shade imaginable can be achieved with this finish application. After coloration is complete, the tannery then embosses a grain pattern onto the hide to create a uniform appearance.

These leathers are considered to be the most serviceable of all leathers and are usually the least expensive, but they sacrifice the “hand” due to the sanding, embossing, and pigmentation.

“SEMI ANILINE” LEATHERS

This full top grain leather requires more select hides due to the fact that there will be little buffing and no sanding or embossing to this product. As with all full top grain leathers, the pattern and texture will vary across the hide. These leathers are aniline dyed throughout and a light opaque, protective top coat is then applied to the surface, to even out the color.

These leathers, like Corrected Top Grain leathers, are considered to be serviceable. Yet, their texture is more pleasing than the fully corrected grain leathers because the surface remains more natural.

*How To Clean – (Cleaning Code P - Protected) Dust on a weekly basis with a soft cloth or vacuum with a soft brush. If you spill something on your furniture, use a SLIGHT damp cloth to immediately dab off any excess. Do not rub. Do not use excess water, as water staining can occur. A SLIGHT damp cloth and a very mild soap solution can be used to remove every-day grime and dirt. Do not use household cleaning products. **CLEANING IS RECOMMENDED BY USING AN ALMOST DRY TO SLIGHT DAMP SPONGE AND THE SUDS FROM A MILD SOAPY SOLUTION, ALTHOUGH SOAP IS NOT REALLY NECESSARY. RINSE WELL WITH A CLEAN SPONGE AND PAT DRY IMMEDIATELY AFTER WITH A TOWEL. NO OTHER CLEANING METHOD IS RECOMMENDED.***

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Leather Classification against cleaning instructions

PURE ANILINE” LEATHERS

The velvety hand of the pure aniline full top grain leather is the trademark of this category of leather. It is the leather industry's equivalent to fine art or a rare diamond. Pure Aniline leather satisfies the most sophisticated consumer who will settle for nothing less than the best. Little is done to this hide other than to tumble it gently in an aniline dye drum. Pure aniline leather is the softest in the world, and of such superior quality that less than 5% of all hides available are suited for this category. Pure Aniline is full top grain, meaning that no corrections or alterations have been made to the top surface layer. You can see the hide's natural markings, a testament to its purity.

“PULL-UP” LEATHERS

This is a pure aniline, full top grain leather, Similar properties to anilines but will become lighter in areas of heavy use, or when Upholstering. After the aniline dyeing process has been completed, the hides are impregnated with oils or wax to give the leather a soft, natural hand. The oils and waxes give the leather a characteristic called "Pull-Up." The unique tanning process of pull-up leathers causes the color in the leather to dissipate and become less intense when the leather is stretched, enhancing the natural markings. All leathers will fade under direct sunlight. However, these leathers are most susceptible to fading at a quicker rate. It will also stain if food or liquids are not wiped off. Designed to become “distressed” looking over time, the natural body oils will also shade the leather slightly, but this shading will blend in with the oils of the leather, giving it a greatly desired patina. Products available to ‘help’ restore look and feel.

How To Clean - (Cleaning Code A - Aniline) Though pull-up leather will repel ‘some’ moisture, water, oils and other liquids can eventually stain it. If stains occur, dry them by tapping/dabbing out stains with a soft, dry cloth. Avoid pressing hard in one small area. Then buff to a shine with a dry cloth. Dust on a weekly basis with a soft cloth or vacuum with a soft brush. Gently warming and rubbing with a soft cloth to redistribute the oils in the leather can remove some superficial scratches. Do not use normal household cleaning products. *CLEANING IS RECOMMENDED BY USING DRY CLOTH OR EVER SO SLIGHT DAMP CLOTH. PATTING WITH A CLEAN, DRY TOWEL TO REMOVE EXCESS MOISTURE IS RECOMMENDED. OVER THE MONTHS AND YEARS THIS LEATHER MAY DEVELOP A CHARACTER AND SHEEN OF ITS OWN FROM BODY OILS AND USE, RETURNING MANY PLEASANT MEMORIES.*

Do not use any products that are not recommended by the manufacturer as they may negatively affect the leather's surface. **Check with your supplier first before using any professional cleaner or protector.**