

### **HAIR-ON-HIDE CARE INSTRUCTIONS**

Cowhide hair-on-hide (cowhide) is best used in a low to medium traffic domestic area or on furniture that is used occasionally.

A cowhide can be folded, but it will need some time to relax after it has been unfolded. Creases will come out after a few days of laying the cowhide flat. To reduce creases quickly, you can also steam iron the cowhide on the underside or hairy side.

Cowhide does not move much on carpet or wooden floors as the textured underside has natural grip. Velcro dots used around the edge of the hide will help stop the hide from being kicked up at the edges on carpet.

The sun will take its toll on all furnishing fabrics. We recommend keeping the dyed and printed cowhides out of direct sunlight to avoid any possible fading. If placed in the full sun for a long time, a printed hide can lighten slightly – for instance, in a mock zebra cowhide, the stripes may change from black to dark brown.

### **HAIR-ON-HIDE CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS**

As part of your normal cleaning routine, simply vacuum or give your cowhide rug and/or cushions a shake outside to remove dust and small dry particles of dirt. Rotate your rug or move to a different location from time to time so that it wears evenly.

You may also wipe smoothly in the direction of the hair with a damp (not wet) cloth using mild soap and water. Do not soak the hide or get it wet, and do not wash in a washing machine or dry clean. Brushing the cowhide with a hard plastic brush will help to keep the hair soft and fluffy and helps to remove dirt.

For common spills like wine, coffee, tea, juice, food, soup, urine and vomit:

Soak up spills with a paper towel or sponge immediately.

Remove any solid matter with the blunt edge of knife by scraping gently in the direction of the hair.

Then wipe with a damp (not wet) cloth using mild soap and water. You can wipe and rub the hair vigorously in any direction.

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Finally clean with a damp cloth using a diluted 1% white vinegar and 99% water solution, as this will help balance the PH levels and help eliminate unpleasant odours.

For oil based spills like fat, grease, lipstick, tar and chewing gum:

- Remove solid matter with the blunt edge of knife by scraping gently in the direction of the hair.
- Then apply Eucalyptus oil directly to the affected area on a soft cloth by dabbing gently.
- Finally wipe with a damp (but not wet) sponge or cloth using a mild soapy solution.

You can wipe and rub the hair vigorously in any direction, however, while this is the best method of trying to clean the cowhide, we cannot guarantee that this will remove your stain and you should proceed at your own risk.

Cowhides do not like to be damp or wet. If you have a dehumidifier, use it regularly to remove moisture from the room. On a sunny day you can put your cowhide outside with the underside facing the sun.

For storage, store the cowhide in a dry place, preferably rolled around a tube core with plastic to protect from dust and dirt while in storage.

**For more detailed advice, please contact your supplier, a leather-cleaning specialist or CTL Leather at the address below.**

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