

# CARE AND CLEANING: LEATHER

Every leather has a tale. Choosing the right leather for the right situation is essential. All types of leather are different, some will have inherent treatments, others will be very natural and more prone to markings and stains.

Remember, leather is skin, there is natural moisture within the hide and some leathers even have a natural barrier built into them, care will vary upon the type of leather. Regular conditioning of the leather will keep its moisture level at equilibrium, ensuring a long life as leather will wear in rather than wear out.

As all leather is shipped in roll format, dye transfer to the face from the back of the hide may occur during transit. Please note, this is not considered a defect; however, it may require additional attention once upholstery is completed. Any dye transfer can typically be cleaned with a damp cloth.

Always check product upon arrival, Altfield cannot be held liable for any damage incurred during transport or storage prior to installation. For more details, please refer to our Terms & Conditions.

## **GENERAL LEATHER CARE:**

Since leather is inherently resilient and durable, it requires very little care and maintenance with normal day to day use. Dusting regularly with a dry cloth is your first line of defence which will keep the dust at bay and from extracting moisture, causing the leather to dry out.

As a natural product, leather will fade. It is best to keep leather out of direct sunlight where possible. This will help the colour last longer.

In the case of spills, any liquid should be removed immediately with an absorbent cloth and allowed to air dry. For more stubborn stains, different types of leather may require an alternative approach.

When cleaning marks and stains, first clean a sample or inconspicuous piece of material to ensure no adverse effects occur to the colouration or finish of your product.

Please see our guide below:

## **CLEANING:**

### **Aniline/Semi-Aniline Leathers**

The best first step is to blot the spill with a dry cloth to absorb as much moisture as possible and avoid rubbing as this can press the stain into the leather or even spread the stain further. If persistent:

- Using a non-alkaline soap (such as a gentle face wash) with a damp cloth may help remove additional dirt. The area may become dark with moisture; allow the area to dry before repeating.
- Do not apply liquid directly to the leather.
- In certain cases, it may not be possible to remove all stains.

Due to the natural finish of aniline leather, scratches will happen. These are part of the life cycle of the leather, however for obvious scratches use the heat of your hand or a gentle hair dryer to smooth the scratch out. The natural waxes and oils in the leather will pull to the surface, allowing the scratch to fade back, building a beautiful patina.



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## **Protected/Pigmented Leathers**

These leathers will be more resistant to spills and markings. Dusting with a soft dry cloth to keep dust away. For any spills, gently wipe soiled areas with a damp cloth.

Should the spill not disappear, clean with circular motion using light to moderate pressure using a non-alkaline soap (such as a gentle face wash) with a damp cloth may help remove additional dirt. Allow the area to dry before repeating.

## **Patent**

This leather is finished with a polyurethane top coat which can help protect from common stains when blotted immediately. Unfortunately, scuffs and scratches may be more difficult to remove, so it's important to treat your patent leather with care.

The best method of cleaning is to wipe with a clean damp cloth and lukewarm water, gently wipe the surface in circular motions only so that the leather does not get damaged, making sure to wipe away excess water with a soft, absorbent or microfibre cloth.

## **Suede & Nubuck**

It is best to compare these to a pair of suede shoes. They will wear and gather dirt due to the finish. Many of our suedes and nubucks are drum treated for water repellency and can be maintained with reasonable care, such as occasional vacuuming with a soft brush attachment.

For any spills or soiling, we advise immediate attention by blotting the stain with an absorbent dry cloth. If the soiling remains, a minimally damp cloth can be used to dab.

## **Hair on Hide (HOH)**

All hides should be vacuumed for regular upkeep. Always vacuum with the direction of the hair.

For any spills or soiling, we advise immediate attention by blotting the stain with an absorbent dry cloth. If the soiling remains, use a damp sponge to gently rub the affected area. Allow to air dry before repeating.

These notes are for guidance only, Altfield can not be held responsible for any damage caused to the product during the cleaning process.

