

LEATHER MAINTENANCE 1/2

Main precautions

The quantity of greasy dust which deposits on your sofa is the same as that, highly visible, deposited on your other furniture; it is therefore necessary to adopt the same rhythm of dust removal.

For regular removal of dust, a soft slightly humid microfibre is enough (demineralized water is better to avoid residual traces).

For leather, it is better to do nothing than to do too much.

It is important to be "slight of hand"; in fact, the best cleaning product can become the worst cleaner if used incorrectly. There are specific products for all different types of leather, very easy to use and supplied with very precise instructions: a specific box is supplied with your sofa. Use only the supplied products. The acquisition of products "special leather" in a broad sense is to avoid because maintenance and products are different depending on the finish. The best product for one kind of leather can be a disaster for another; it is imperative to replace the same product directly on the website: www.art-cuir.fr.

Just as our skin, leather is under stress when using sofas and armchairs (dust, stains, various dirt residues, sweating etc..). Without maintenance, these aggressions may irreversibly alter the leather surface.

Preventive maintenance, using the suggested products, aims to limit dirt and protect leather in order to maintain intact its original qualities.

Maintenance of leather has to be periodic, even if leather seems aesthetically correct.

Your sofa becomes gradually soiled and it's not always immediately visible (ambient dust, contact with clothing more or less clean, body residues, perspiration etc..).

These micro-soiling parts, accumulated on the surface of leather, chemically and physically attack the finish of your leather. When the phenomenon is visible is that the degree of soiling is already well advanced and the wearing effects are already underway. Only regular preventive maintenance will preserve your leather effectively.

Important: If the color of your leather is clear, your seats will require more frequent maintenance. Regular cleaning operations are suggested, every two months if necessary.

Main precautions

Do not seat with new clothes (especially jeans) that have not been washed at least once; color rubbing off on leather is usually irreversible.

Be aware: the dyes of some textiles, plaids, cushions or items can be unstable and could migrate to the leather of your seats. Check the solidity of colors vigorously rubbing with a white fabric on the textiles to control. If when rubbed no color migrates on white fabric, there is no risk. Otherwise, avoid using these items on your seats.

There is a risk of damages on the covering by abrasive fabric clothing (jeans, for example), zips, buttons, rivets and other metal or plastic parts which can scratch or attack the leather.

In case of spots: never rub leather vigorously, as it may alter the surface finish; always proceed by small circular movements, from the edge towards the middle of the stained area.

According to its nature and frequency of maintenance, leather will have more or less "patina" and may have more or less important changes in color and look; these effects are related to the use of the sofas, physical stresses, body cream and ointments transfer, perspiration and the environment in which the seats are installed (humidity, exposure to light, etc..).

Avoid leather exposure to excessive heat or light (sun or moon), it risks to dry or discolor.

Avoid over wetting leather, especially aniline leather. Do not use calcareous water, it risks to leave residual traces when drying.

General information about leather stain removal

Whatever the kind of stain, you must:

- If possible, take immediate action
- Refer to the section "SOS TACHES" (SOS STAINS) on the web site www.art-cuir.fr as soon as possible,
- Never carry out any localized friction
- Gently remove most of soiling using a knife (not the cutting side) or a spoon, avoiding to aggress leather and buffer immediately with a clean, soft white cloth to absorb the dirt
- Use stain removal lotion to emulsify and remove any residual
- Reduce the stain acting from the edge towards the middle, to avoid rings
- Buffer the stain with a clean, dry cloth to extract the most wet residue generated
- Before any cleaning operation, a compatibility test with your leather on a hidden part of cover is recommended.

Leather upholstery maintenance box

Package content for anilin leather:

- 50 lotion nettoyage/détachage, range PRO or "A" for anilin leather,
- 50 ml maintenance and protection cream, range PRO or "A" with reinforced protective agent for anilin leather,
- 1 cloth for the application,
- 1 sponge,
- 1 notice, repeated below.

Package content for pigmented leather:

- 50 lotion nettoyage/détachage, range SOFT or "P" for pigmented leather,
- 50 ml maintenance and protection cream, range SOFT or "P" for pigmented leather,
- 1 cloth for the application,
- 1 sponge,
- 1 notice, repeated below.

Every 15 days at most

Pass a cloth (a soft microfibre, wetted with deionized water) on all your seats. This eliminates dust and sweating residues.

Quarterly at most

Perform a complete operation care.

Cleaning & stain removal

This is to do automatically even if leather does not have any visible stains or soiling. The cleaning process purifies leather (by cleaning pores and veins) and allows the protection product, which will be applied after cleaning, to well adhere and provide maximum efficiency. The cleansing lotion helps eliminate common stains and dirt related to the use of seats, without damaging leather.

Note: For leather with a pronounced grain, use a soft brush ("brosse douce de nettoyage"), available on www.art-cuir.fr. It allows an excellent cleaning of leather in the ribs and prevents that residues of stagnant soil harm your leather.

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Cleaning procedure

Pour the cleaning lotion on the sponge and produce foam by kneading the sponge. Clean the leather by small circular movements, allowing to the product the time to make effect. Regularly rinse the sponge to remove dirt. Let it dry. After each use of the cleaning lotion, even for a local stain removal operation, it is imperative to apply the protection product.

Maintenance - Protection

This is to do after cleaning operation, on clean or new leather. The protection product spreads out on leather and polymerizes (dries) in 2 hours. The product forms a screen that protects leather. This quarterly maintenance frequency helps consolidate this screen regularly by providing complementary product to keep it efficient.

Protection procedure with "maintenance and protection cream"

Pour protection product on the cloth and spread it without rubbing leather intensely. The application must leave on the surface of leather a visible humidification. Be sure to protect the most used parts (seats, backs and armrests). Let it dry for 2 hours before use.

Information, notice and products purchase

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